JACK BRAND PILSENER
BREWED FROM THE FINEST ENGLISH HOPS.
SOLE AGENTS IN INDIA
B. SMYTH & CO. LTD.,
BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA.

The Bombay Gazette.

No. 51,781—NEW SERIES. BOMBAY:—THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1899.

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

ESTABLISHED 1818.
PETER F. HEERING'S
COPENHAGEN
CHERRY BRANDY.
Sold by all respectable Wine Merchants.

SHIPPING.

LANDING OF PASSENGERS.

S.S. "ARABIA" AND S.S. "PENINSULAR.

THE S.S. "ARABIA" is expected to arrive in Bombay on FRIDAY the 24th instant at 7 A.M., and Passengers will land at the BALLARD PIER as usual.

The S.S. "PENINSULAR" is expected the same day at NOON, and will proceed direct into the VICTORIA DOCKS where Passengers will land at No. 6 Shed.

F. C. ALLEN,
Acting Superintendent P. & O. S. N. Co.
Bombay, 22nd November, 1899.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

DEPARTURES FOR EUROPE.

WITH LIBERTY TO CALL AT BRINDISI AND MALTA.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	SATURDAY, 2 P.M. 1899.
* CALEDONIA	7558	E. H. Gordon	25th Nov.
M. L. ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parütt	2nd Dec.
* PENINSULAR	8287	W. Wheler	9th "
M. L. CALEDONIA	7558	E. Gordon	16th "
* SHANNON	4382	L. M. Wibmer	23rd "
M. L. PENINSULAR	8287	W. Wheler	30th "
			1900.
* ORIENTAL	8284	J. F. Jephson	6th Jan.
M. L. EGYPT	7912	G. Langbourne	13th "
* CARTHAGE	5198	J. R. Lendon	20th "
M. L. ORIENTAL	8284	J. F. Jephson	27th "
* ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parütt	3rd Feb.
M. L. CARTHAGE	5198	J. R. Lendon	10th "
* CALEDONIA	7558	E. H. Gordon	17th "
M. L. ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parütt	24th "
* PENINSULAR	8287	W. Wheler	3rd Mar.
M. L. CALEDONIA	7558	E. H. Gordon	10th "
* EGYPT	7912	G. Langbourne	17th "
M. L. PENINSULAR	8287	W. Wheler	24th "
* ORIENTAL	8284	J. F. Jephson	31st "
M. L. EGYPT	7912	G. Langbourne	7th April,

The steamers marked M. L. proceed to MARSEILLES, PLYMOUTH and LONDON.

The steamers marked * proceed to ADEN only, and passengers transhipp there for MARSEILLES, PLYMOUTH or LONDON.

The BRINDISI route is closed at present owing to quarantine.

HEAVY BAGGAGE must be sent to the BALLARD PIER on FRIDAY AFTERNOON the day previous to Sailing, and CABIN BAGGAGE before 9 A.M., on SATURDAY. The attention of Passengers is called to the importance of having their Baggage Labelled with Port of Destination.

Tenders leave the Ballard Pier on day of sailing. All Passengers must attend at that place between 11 A.M., and 12-30 P.M., for medical inspection by the Health Officer of the Port, and no one will be allowed on board the Mail Steamer unless so examined and conveyed thence in the Company's steam barges. Special attention is directed to these regulations, which are imperative under the Venice Convention.

Friends of passengers cannot go on board the Mail Steamer.

TO COLOMBO, STRAITS, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

The Company's STEAMERS LEAVE BOMBAY FORTNIGHTLY, usually on TUESDAYS, taking Passengers for the STRAITS, CHINA, and JAPAN, and return Tickets are issued on favourable terms.

Cargo Steamers are despatched to China at frequent intervals, calling at Ports en route.

For further particulars apply to

F. C. ALLEN,
Acting Superintendent, P. & O. S. N. Company.
Bombay, 23rd September, 1899.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S.N. Co.

UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT.

TO TRIESTE DIRECT VIA ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID.

Steamers.	Captains.	Tons.	To sail on.
IMPERATRIX	G. Morovich	4,213	1st Dec. 1899.
IMPERATOR	G. Klausberger	4,149	1st Jan. 1900.
IMPERATRIX	G. Morovich	4,213	1st Feb. 1900.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Deck.
TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 900.	Rs. 325.	Rs. 150.

TO TRIESTE, VIA KURRACHEE, ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Steamers.	Captains.	Tons.	To Sail on or about
POSEIDON	A. Lova	3,878	7th Dec., 1899.
VINDOBONA	C. Bellen	4,351	7th Jan., 1900.
GISELA	F. Mosca	4,253	7th Feb., 1900.

PASSAGE MONEY BY THIS ROUTE.

	Saloon.	Deck.
TO TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 375	Rs. 150.

RETURN TICKETS TO TRIESTE AND VENICE.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.
Available for 6 months	Rs. 960,	Rs. 575,
Available for 12 months	" 1,060,	" 625.

THROUGH TICKETS TO LONDON.

1st and 2nd Class Single and Return Tickets are issued via Trieste, the St. Gothards, and other Routes.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE MESSAGERIES MARITIMES CO.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Austrian Lloyd's and the Return Voyage by the Messageries Maritimes Co., at reduced fares.

This arrangement will prove of special advantage to passengers on three months' privilege leave.

Steamers leave TRIESTE for BOMBAY direct on the 3rd and those via KURRACHEE on the 23rd of each month.

Passengers to VENICE tranship at TRIESTE to another steamer of the Company, which takes about 6 hours to cross the Gulf.

STEAM TO COLOMBO, PENANG, SINGAPORE, HONG-KONG, SHANGHAI AND KOBE.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To sail on or about
TRIESTE	A. Mitis	5,095	22nd Dec., 1899.

For further particulars, Freight, Passage &c., apply to

E. SCARPA, Agent.
Sassoon House 2, Church Gate Street, Bombay, Nov., 20, 1899.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.
(JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.)

S.S. "KAGOSHIMA MARU," Captain R. NUNOME, 4,370 tons, will sail for SINGAPORE, CHINA and JAPAN, on 1st proximo.

For freight and passage apply to

T. TAKAYANAGI,
Manager.
Victoria Buildings, Fort, Bombay, 21st Nov. 1899.

EASTERN EXPRESS.

SPECIALLY organized for the conveyance of packages, between India and the United Kingdom at a through rate, inclusive of all charges except Insurance and duty.

Parcels, without limit of weight, are conveyed from Bombay or Karachi to any Railway Station in the United Kingdom at

6 annas per pound.

Parcels are conveyed to the Ports of London and Liverpool only at the rate of

3 annas per pound.

For large parcels and packages Messrs. LATHAM & Co. recommend their established and well-known

HOME EXPRESS,

as being the most economical and comprehensive mode of despatch. Full particulars of which will be furnished on application.

CARGO SHIPMENTS undertaken at especially reduced rates by Mail, Regular Lines, and Cargo Steamers, particulars of Sailing of which can be obtained from Messrs. Latham & Co.'s Monthly Shipping Circular, or by application.

INDO-AMERICAN EXPRESS.

MESSRS. LATHAM & Co. have also completed arrangements enabling them to accept Parcels for transmission to New York at the rate of

Rs. 2 per cubic foot,

Inclusive of Freight and all Shipping Charges.

Particulars as to free delivery charges in New York and parcel rates to any interior town of the United States to be had on application.

LATHAM & Co.,
Shipping and Forwarding Agents.
BOMBAY: Esplanade Road. KARACHI: Bunder Road.
Represented in London, Liverpool, and Paris by
GEO. W. WHEATLEY & CO.

SHIPPING.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

Intend to despatch Steamers as follows:—

FOR KURRACHEE DIRECT.

S.S. "KOLA" 1,192 tons, on the 24th November, at 2 p.m., or later, on arrival of the English Mail.

FOR COAST PORTS AND KURRACHEE.

S.S. "PACHUMBA," 867 tons, on the 28th November, at 10 a.m., calling at Veraval, Mangrole, Porebunder and Cutch Mandvie, (weather permitting).

FOR KURRACHEE, AND PERSIAN GULF.

S.S. "SIMLA," 1,615 tons, at 10 a.m., on the 23rd November, calling at Kurrachee, Chahbar, Muscat, Jask, Bunder Abbas, Lingo, Bahrein, Bushire, Fao, Mahomerah and Busreh, in the foregoing or any order, (weather permitting).

FOR ADEN, MOMBASSA, ZANZIBAR AND LAMOO

S.S. "CANARA," 1,902 tons, on or about 30th November.

FOR KURRACHEE, SEYCHELLES, MOMBASSA AND ZANZIBAR.

S.S. "NUDDEA," 3,005 tons, on or about 30th November.

FOR COAST AND CALCUTTA.

S.S. "CHINDWARA," 2,011 tons, on or about 21th November.

FOR COCHIN AND RANGOON.

S.S. "BHUNDARA," 2,936 tons, on or about 25th November.

FOR MANILA.

A THREE-WEEKLY direct service has been started from Calcutta to Manila, calling at Rangoon, Penang and Singapore, Rates for Passengers and Cargo, and dates of sailing can be obtained from the Undersigned.

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co.,
Agents.
Bombay, 22nd November, 1899.

KING, KING & CO.,

BANKERS AND EAST INDIA AGENTS, BOMBAY.

PASSAGES engaged by P. & O. and all Steamers at the lowest rates obtainable free of charge or Commission.

Lists of the LATEST SAILINGS, with Fares and full information as to berths available, furnished at once.

Special attention paid to the grouping of those wishing to travel 2nd Class, P. & O. Every assistance rendered to Passengers arriving in Bombay for embarkation. Baggage taken over at the Railway Stations and shipped.

THROUGH RAILWAY TICKETS from any Station in India to Bombay, and Tickets for all Continental Routes furnished on application.

SPECIAL AGENTS of the Firm meet all Steamers at BRINDISI and MARSEILLES.

PACKAGES of every description received for despatch as CARGO to Messrs. Henry S. King & Co., London; or Messrs. King, Baillie & Co., Liverpool. Freight and Marine Insurance effected at the Lowest Rates. QUOTATIONS FURNISHED on APPLICATION.

KING, HAMILTON & CO.,
CALCUTTA.
HENRY S. KING & Co., LONDON.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

TO MARSEILLES DIRECT.

VIA ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	To sail on Tuesday,
ANNAM	6,300	Lecoispellier	19th Dec. 1899.
OCEANIEN	4,249	Schmitz	18th Jan. 1900.
CALEDONIAN	4,232	Boucard	15th Feb. 1900.

TO COLOMBO, SINGAPORE, JAVA, SAIGON, TONQUIN, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

S.S. "SALAZIE," 4,255 tons, Captain Allegre to sail on or about the 13th December, 1899. For weekly departures thereafter.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S. N. Co.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Messageries Maritimes, and the return voyage by the Austrian Lloyd's at Reduced Fares. This arrangement will prove, in some cases, of special advantage to Passengers on three months' privilege leave.

For further Particulars apply to

C. RUINAT, Agent.
New Oriental Bank Buildings, 57, Esplanade Road, Bombay.

THOS. COOK AND SON,

BANKERS AND ARMY AGENTS.

PASSAGES PROMPTLY ENGAGED by P. & O. Mail, and all other Steamers, including non-Liners FREE of CHARGE for COMMISSION.

SPECIAL ATTENTION given to the selection of berths and Social Grouping of Passengers.

THROUGH TICKETS issued available from any Railway Station in India to all parts of the Globe.

CONTINENTAL TRAVELLING TICKETS issued, allowing breaks of Journey at all places of interest.

PASSENGERS with COOK'S Tickets met and assisted at all Chief Continental Ports and Cities.

REDUCED RATES to Railway Family employes, Parties and Missionaries.

OUTWARD PASSAGES engaged and Tickets supplied from any part of the world to India.

HOTEL COUPONS available at over 2,000 Hotels.

REDUCED FARES for Military Officers, Government Officials, and Missionaries to Europe via China and America.

HEAVY BAGGAGE received, forwarded and Insured.

LIFE and ACCIDENT INSURANCE policies issued.

CIRCULAR NOTES and LETTERS of CREDIT issued for the use of Travellers in all parts of the World.

DRAFTS issued at the Exchange of the day.

SOVEREIGNS, BANK NOTES, and Foreign money bought and supplied. CURRENT ACCOUNTS kept, and Interest allowed when the Credit Balance does not fall below Rs. 1,000.

DEPOSITS received. Rate of Interest on application.

INTEREST, PAY and PENSIONS collected and every description of Banking and Money Agency transacted.

Hand book of information free on application.

BOMBAY: 18, Esplanade Road,
CALCUTTA: Old Court House Street.

REPORTS, Petitions, Memorials, Business Announcements, Bill Forms, Books, Pamphlets, &c., &c., printed with neatness and promptitude and at lowest rates. Special terms for large contracts. Apply to The Manager "Bombay Gazette" Steam Press.

TREACHER & CO., LD.,

HOUSEHOLD REQUIREMENTS.
SUPERIOR DAMASK
TABLE LINEN
FROM THE BELFAST LINEN COMPANY.

A SPLENDID SELECTION
IN NEW AND ELEGANT DESIGNS OF
GLASS AND CHINA WARE.
Breakfast and Dinner Services, Toilet Sets, Desert Sets, Chamber Services.
TREACHER & CO.'S STANDARD GLASSWARE.
WEDGWOOD, HARLEQUIN, AND EGG WARE.

LAMPS
BY HINKS AND COMPANY.
A LARGE SELECTION OF TABLE AND HANGING LAMPS IN NEW DESIGNS.
LAMPS AND LANTERNS FOR KITCHEN AND OTHER USES.

CUTLERY AND HARDWARE.
THE CELEBRATED "CAVENDISH" CUTLERY IN IVORY AND "L'AFRICAINE" IVORY HANDLES, POCKET KNIVES, SCISSORS AND CUTLERY OF ALL KINDS.

ELECTRO-PLATED WARE.
From the best London and Sheffield Houses, and of Guaranteed Quality.
ELECTRO-PLATED SPOONS AND FORKS,
AND EVERY REQUISITE FOR
TABLE USE.

BOMBAY. BYCULLA. POONA.

BAHADUR CIGARS.

PAR EXCELLENCE THE LEADING BRAND

OF INDIAN CIGARS.

WRITE FOR ILLUSTRATED PRICE LIST AND CATALOGUE.

SOLE MANUFACTURERS AND PROPRIETORS,

McDOWELL AND CO., LD.

MADRAS. LONDON.

HOMEWARD PASSAGES.

GRINDLAY, GROOM & Co., BOMBAY,
GRINDLAY & Co.,
CALCUTTA,
BANKERS AND AGENTS,

PASSAGES booked without charge, and on favourable terms. Berths carefully selected.
SLEEPING Car and CONTINENTAL RAILWAY TICKETS procured.
TEA PLANTERS, RAILWAY OFFICIALS, MISSIONARIES, booked at reduced rates.
PASSAGES booked to ENGLAND *via* JAPAN and AMERICA, by the Canadian Pacific Occidental and Oriental and Pacific Mail Routes.
HANDBOOK giving details of Fares, &c., and of Sailings by all Lines sent FREE on application.
PASSENGERS met on arrival.
BAGGAGE shipped and cleared and Insurance effected covering all risks.
PACKAGES cleared or shipped.
CIRCULAR NOTES, BANK NOTES, DRAFTS, and SOVEREIGNS at current rates.

London Agents: GRINDLAY & CO.

HOMEWARD-BOUND PASSENGERS AND TOURISTS.

MESSRS. LATHAM & Co. receive and store Surplus Baggage and re-ship the same.

Articles of Indian Art manufacture received and packed securely for transit.

MESSRS. LATHAM & Co. being directly represented at all the principal European, American, and Australian ports by thoroughly reliable Agents, all packages entrusted to their care will be expeditiously and economically cleared and despatched on arrival at destination.

If desired, passengers can be met on arrival by Messrs. LATHAM & Co.'s Agents.

BOMBAY, Esplanade Road. KARACHI, Bunder Road.

TO BE LET

A SPACIOUS WELL-FURNISHED BUNGALOW AT MALABAR HILL.

Apply, care of MANAGER," Bombay Gazette."

FREE BY POST.
NEW CATALOGUE OF
WATCHES
CLOCKS,
JEWELLERY,
OPTICS,
SILVERWARE,
ELECTRO-PLATE,
PIANOFORTES,
MUSICAL BOXES,
BICYCLES AND TRICYCLES.
MARCKS & CO., LD.
BOMBAY AND POONA.

BOMBAY PERFUMERY MART.
LARGEST & CHEAPEST
HOUSE IN INDIA.
VARIETIES OF
PERFUMERY AND TOILETTE REQUISITES
FROM WELL KNOWN MANUFACTURERS, SUCH AS:—
PINAUD, PIVER, GELLE FRERES,
ROGER AND GALLET, FERD. MULHENS,
AND OTHERS.
☞ COMPARE PRICES ☜
RHINE VIOLET, Rs. 1-8. PEARS SOAP, Rs. 0-12-6.
EAU DE QUININE PINAUD, Small, Rs. 1-2. Large, Rs. 2-4.
JAVA POWDER, Rs. 0-11.
Where MADAME BLANCHE will put in her APPEARANCE and DANCE-a-la-circle.
93, MEADOW STREET, FORT.

INTENDING ASSURERS ARE INVITED TO COMPARE THE RATES AND CONDITIONS OF
THE EMPIRE OF INDIA
LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LD.,
WITH THOSE OF ANY OTHER COMPANY.
HEAD OFFICE: 29, ESPLANADE ROAD, BOMBAY.
SEE REPORT AND OPINIONS OF THE PRESS AS TO THE REMARKABLE PROGRESS MADE BY THE COMPANY.
ENDOWMENT NON-FORFEITABLE POLICY
FOR Rs. 3,000.
PAYABLE AT AGE 60 OR AT DEATH IF PREVIOUS, WITH PROFITS.

If, at any time, the assured under this plan should desire to cease paying any more premiums, he can obtain a paid-up Policy for such a proportion of the original sum assured as the number of premiums paid bears to the number agreed upon. Thus a gentleman who had assured at age 30 for a Policy of Rs. 3,000 payable at age 60 or at Death, if previous, after 5 years' payments, would be entitled to a Free paid-up Policy for Rs. 500 free of future payments.

MONTHLY PREMIUM.	
At age 20,	Rs. 6-9-0
At age 25,	Rs. 7-8-0
At age 30,	Rs. 8-14-0
At age 35,	Rs. 10-13-0
At age 40,	Rs. 13-12-0
At age 45,	Rs. 18-10-0

DISTINCTIVE FEATURES.

Absolute Security.
* Funds invested in Government Securities and in accordance with the Indian Trust Act.
* Policy holders can appoint their own Directors.
90 per cent. of Profits to Participating Policy holders.
Policies simple in form, worldwide and indisputable.
Lapsed policies revived without fine.
Liberal Surrender Values. 40 per cent. of the Tabular premiums paid.
Loans to Policy holders at 6 per cent. interest.
Guaranteed 5 per cent. Investment Policies. Life and Endowments.
Immediate payment of Claims.
Non-forfeitable though Suicide.
Medical fees and stamps on Policies are payable by the Company.
* The Empire of India is the only Company that offers these guarantees of Security.

The sum Assured is PAYABLE IN FULL should death occur even immediately after payment of the first premium.

GUARANTEE INSURANCE.—This Company issues Guaranteed Policies in situations of trust and responsibility. It is specially authorized to guarantee the employes of the Post Office.

Proposal Forms and full Particulars may be obtained from any local Agent in India or from

E. F. ALLUM, General Manager.

GENUINE
HUSCHKE'S
COLOGNE WATER.
(LEADING BRAND SINCE 1842.)

HAS been imported into THIS COUNTRY CONTINUALLY and in increasing quantities for the last 40 years. This fact proves that its excellent qualities are well understood and appreciated by the public. Imitations have reached this market and inferior brands have been put forward, bearing labels closely imitating the Genuine Huschke 3 Star Label. All such imitations will be prosecuted, and the public are requested to beware of them, and to see that the label on each bottle and box bears the 3 Stars in Blue, and on the back of the Label, as seen through the bottle, the inscription:

"GENUINE HUSCHKE'S COLOGNE WATER"

To be had from all Chemists and Druggists in every part of India.

RUSTOMJEE MANECKJEE & CO.,
18, PARSEE BAZAAR, FORT, BOMBAY.
SOLE DEALERS IN INDIA AND CEYLON.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE MUIR MILLS CO.,
LIMITED,
Cawnpore.

DURRIES! DURRIES! DURRIES!
Speciality, New Style,
BORDERED CARPETS.

FARASH! FARASH! FARASH!
NEWEST and Best designs in the Market.

TENTS! TENTS! TENTS!
CATALOGUE AND ESTIMATES FREE
On Application To MANAGER and SECRETARY.

THE TAPTI-VALLEY RAILWAY COMPANY.
NOTICE.

ON and after the 25th November, 1899, SINDKHEDA and NARDANA stations on the Tapti Valley Railway, beyond DONDAICHE will be OPENED for Goods Traffic.
Further particulars as to rules, rates and classification of goods can be had on application to any of the Station Masters on the B. P. and C.I. Railway Company's System.

C. CROMMELIN,
Genl. Traffic Manager, B. B. & C. I. Railway.
Bombay, 21st November, 1899.

NOTICE.

TENDERS for the supply of "MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES" to the Stamp Office for one year from the 11th proximo, will be received by the Undersigned up to 12 noon on SATURDAY, the 2nd proximo.
Further particulars to be learnt at the General Stamp Office.

R. M. KENNEDY.
Superintendent of Stamps.
Bombay, 22nd November, 1899.

BOMBAY, BARODA AND CENTRAL INDIA RAILWAY.
LOCOMOTIVE AND CARRIAGE DEPARTMENT

TENDERS will be received by the Undersigned upto 15th December, 1899, for the PURCHASE of CASTOR CAKE that may be produced at the Company's Oil Mill at Sabermati, during the year 1900, estimated at 1000 tons more or less.
Delivery of the Cake will be given in wagons at the Mill generally every month, as the cake is produced.
Conveyance on the Company's line will be allowed at the Contractor's rate of 13 pie per maund per mile at Owner's risk.
A deposit of Rs. 500 will be required from the person whose tender is accepted as security for the due fulfilment of the Contract.
The Agent does not bind himself to accept the highest or any tender.
Tenders to be inscribed "TENDERS FOR CAKE," Parel Works.

E. S. LUARD.
Loco: & Carr: Suptt.
20th November, 1899.

XMAS CARDS.
LARGEST VARIETY
BEST SELECTION.
Thousands of Beautiful Artistic Designs.
OUR SPECIAL LINE

INDIAN XMAS CARDS.
These Indian Cards are daily increasing in popularity. They have elicited Great Praise. Most flattering Press notices.

D. B. TARAPOREVALA SONS & Co.,
MEDOWS STREET, BOMBAY.

NOTICE.
RE-ESTATE OF BAI SOONABAI, WIDOW OF THE LATE MR. DADABHOY FARDOONJEE GUZDER, DECEASED.

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons claiming against the Estate of BAI SOONABAI, widow of Mr. DADABHOY FARDOONJEE GUZDER, late of Bombay, Parsi Inhabitant, deceased, who died intestate at Bombay aforesaid, on or about the 12th day of August, 1899, and Letters of administration of the property and credits of whose Estate was on the 21st day of November, 1899, granted by the High Court of Judicature at Bombay, to Nawazbai (widow of JAMSETJI BOMONJI MULLA), one of the daughters of the said deceased, to have effect throughout the Province of Bombay are required to send to the undersigned at their office at Hornby Road, Oriental Buildings, (2nd floor), in writing their names, addresses and particulars of their claims against the Estate of the said deceased, so as to reach the said office on or before the 22nd day of December, 1899, as after that date the said Administratrix will proceed to Administer the said assets having regard only to the claims of which the said administratrix shall then have notice as aforesaid, and no claims sent in subsequently that date will be recognised by her.
All persons indebted to the Estate of the said deceased or having property belonging to her are hereby required to pay their debts or hand over such property to the said administratrix.—Dated this 22nd day of November, 1899.

JEHANGIR AND SEERVAI,
Attorneys for the Administratrix.

THE DEMAND
FOR
STANDARD POLICIES.

EVERY YEAR since 1865, the preference shown for STANDARD POLICIES has been very marked; the NEW BUSINESS having exceeded £1,000,000, sums assured PER ANNUM—a result maintained uninterruptedly for so long a period by NO OTHER BRITISH OFFICE.

PREMIUMS MODERATE; CONDITIONS LIBERAL.
POLICYHOLDERS SECURITY.
NEARLY .....£ 9,000,000 Stg.
EVERY INFORMATION
in connection with LIFE ASSURANCE BUSINESS can be obtained on application to

F. A. PREVOST,
Secretary, Bombay Branch.

R. SCOTT & CO., M. R. C. V. S.,
VETERINARY AND COMMISSION STABLES
Girgaum, and 223, Bellasis Road, Byculla.

CHARGERS, Polo Ponies, Hacks and Carriage Horses Selected for Local and Up-country Constituents. Horses Shod on the most approved principles under Personal Supervision.
Horses broken to single (Rs. 15), and double Harness (30,) and Saddle (Rs. 15), Raw Walers Charged extra.

	Rs.
Horses standing at Livery, on Commission Sale, or for treatment including 3 rds per measem	25
Commission on Horses Bought or Sold	17
Examination and Certificate	10
Verbal opinion as to Soundness	5

CRUSHED FOOD OATS, BRAN &c., Supplied.

SALES BY AUCTION.

MESSRS. MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & CO., NO. 4, FORBES & MEDOWS STREETS, FORT.

SALE OF EMPTY KEROSINE OIL BOXES AND CUT TREES.

By order of the Municipal Commissioner of the City of Bombay, Messrs. MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & Co., will sell by Public Auction, THIS DAY, THURSDAY, the 23rd November, 1899, at 3 p.m., at the Bellasis Bridge, Municipal Pipe Depot:—
A lot of empty kerosine oil boxes with tins.
Also at 4 p.m., in the compound of the Christ Church at Byculla (opposite the Bellasis Place), by order of the Executive Engineer, Presidency, a lot of cut trees.

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & Co.,
Bombay, November, 23, 1899.

SPECIAL SHORT ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Scale for these Advertisements is as follows:—Not exceeding 3 lines, Rs. 1, each succeeding line, As. 8. No Trade Advertisements are admitted under this Scale.

THE INDIAN EDITION of The New Premier Cycle Co.'s HELICAL TUBE BICYCLES can now be obtained, post free, on application to the Sole Agents.—MARCKS and Co., Ltd., Bombay and Poona.

EVERY HOUSEHOLD should keep ready at hand a Jar of BAEL FRUIT PRESERVE, manufactured from fresh Fruit only by THOMSON TAYLOR. Is the best remedy for Diarrhœa and Dysentery, 35, Esplanade Road, Bombay.

JOHN ROBERTS & Co., Ltd.,—Beautiful, New, CHARMING CRETONNES, CHINTZES, TAPESTRIES. Patterns on application.

MATHERAN.—A GOOD OPPORTUNITY for students to recoup their exhausted energy—Students of Schools and Colleges and those that appeared in the last University Examinations, will be admitted at Reduced Rates to Lord's Hotels.—Apply to H. N. LORD, Matheran.

OUR NEW SEASON'S SILK TIES have arrived. Every variety in Made-up Bows, Club Silk Ties for tying in Bow—Bandanna Handkerchief Scarfs, Rich Silk, Wide End Scarfs. Daily inspection invited. ASQUITH & LORD, Apollo Street.

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SEALED TENDERS will be received by the Agent at his Office, Victoria Terminus, Bombay, upto 1 p.m. (Gun-Fire), on 29th November, 1899, for the SUPPLY of any quantity upto

500 TONS OF TEAK LOG TIMBER

of the best quality for early delivery Moulmein, Rangoon or Siam Teak may be offered.

2. TENDERERS to quote the price per ton of 50 cubic feet, delivered on the Company's premises, Byculla, and state the maximum percentage of rejections allowed in the raft.

3. TENDERS must be accompanied by the specification of shipment showing clearly whether the Timber tendered is Moulmein, Rangoon or Siam.

4. The Agent does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any Tender.

G. R. WEBB,
General Storekeeper.

General Storekeeper's Office, Parel, 16th November, 1899.

GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY. COMPANY.

SUPPLY OF WASTE COTTON.

SEALED TENDERS will be received by the Agent of this Railway at his office, Victoria Terminus, Bombay, up to 1 P.M., (Gun-fire) on WEDNESDAY, the 6th December, 1899, for the supply as above in such quantities as may be required on order from time to time, during the period of twelve months, commencing from the 1st day of February, 1900.

CONDITIONS.—Binding in terms of Contract.

NOTE.—Consumption during twelve months, is estimated at Tons 250 (two hundred and fifty tons).

SAMPLES representing such qualities as will be accepted, can be seen on application to the undersigned at his office.

TENDERS.—These must be made out on the Company's printed form, which can be had on application to the undersigned at his office.

DEPOSIT.—Rs. 1,000, (one thousand rupees) must accompany each Tender as a guarantee of good faith in due fulfilment of Contract.

The Agent does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any Tender.

G. R. WEBB,
General Storekeeper.

General Storekeeper's Office, Parel, 31st October, 1899.

GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY COMPANY.

SUPPLY OF COCOANUT OIL.

SEALED TENDERS will be received by the Agent of this Railway, at his Office, Victoria Terminus, Bombay, up to 1 P.M., (Gun-fire) on WEDNESDAY, the 6th December, 1899, for the supply of above in such quantities as may be required on order from time to time, during the period of twelve months, commencing from the 1st day of February, 1900.

CONDITIONS.—Binding in terms of Contract.

NOTE.—Consumption during twelve months, is estimated at Tons 450 (four hundred and fifty tons.)

SAMPLES representing such qualities as will be accepted, can be seen on application to the undersigned at his office.

TENDERS.—These must be made out on the Company's printed form, which can be had on application to the undersigned at his office.

DEPOSIT.—Rs. 1,000 (one thousand rupees) must accompany each Tender as a guarantee of good faith in due fulfilment of Contract.

The Agent does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any Tender.

G. R. WEBB,
General Storekeeper.

General Storekeeper's Office, Parel, 21st October, 1899.

BOMBAY, BARODA AND CENTRAL INDIA RAILWAY.

(INCLUDING)

RAJPUTANA-MALWA RAILWAY.

TENDERS FOR STATIONERY AND PAPER REQUIRED FOR ONE YEAR FROM 1st APRIL, 1900.

THE AGENT is prepared to receive at his Office, Church Gate, Fort, Bombay, up to 1 p.m., (Gun-fire) on THURSDAY, 30th November, 1899, Sealed Tenders for the SUPPLY OF STATIONERY and PAPER, English and Indian Manufacture required by the Company for the Broad and Metre Gauge Sections, for delivery at Bombay.

2. Forms of Tenders giving full particulars of requirements and conditions on which Tenders will be received may be obtained on application to the Chief Storekeeper's Office, Parel, Bombay, or the Deputy Storekeeper's Office, Ajmere, on payment of Rs. 2 (two), for each Form. Samples are available for inspection at this Office, Parel.

3. Tenders should be superscribed "Tenders for Stationery and Paper for B. B. and C. I Railway and R.-M. Railway," and must be accompanied by a Deposit of Rupees 1,000 (one thousand), in currency notes with each Tender. If Government Paper or other Securities be submitted they must be endorsed in favor of the B. B. and C. I. Railway Company.

4. The Agent reserves the right to select one or more items from any tender without reference to the other items and the tenderer will be required to supply the same at the rate quoted.

The Agent does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any tender.

GEORGE K. SPENCER,
Acting Chief Storekeeper,

Chief Storekeeper's Office, Parel, 11th November, 1899.

BANK OF BOMBAY.

SAVINGS BANK.

THE BANK receives DEPOSITS on the following terms:—

Sums not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in the aggregate may be deposited within any one year from 1st January to 31s December.

Deposits may be made in the names of two or more persons, and the balance made payable to one or more of them or to the survivor or survivors.

Interest is allowed at the rate of THREE PER CENT. per annum on the minimum monthly balance not exceeding Rs. 5,000.

Copies of the Rules can be obtained on application at the Bank.

J. BEGBIE,
Secretary and Treasurer.

DECCAN BANKING AND AGENCY CORPORATION, LIMITED.

SHORT PERIOD FIXED DEPOSITS.

THE Bank receives Short Period Deposits during busy season at Bombay at the following Rates of Interest:—

At 5 1-2 per cent. per annum for 4 months.
" 5 " " 3 "
" 4 " " 2 "

M. HARE & Co.,
Managing Agents.

S. R. BOTTLEWALLA AND CO.,

FINANCIAL AGENTS AND GENERAL BROKERS.

(ESTABLISHED 1886.)

TRANSACT EVERY KIND OF PERSONAL AGENCY, PARTICULARLY:—

NATIVE STATE AGENCY.—The Sovereigns, Princes, Chiefs, Nobles and Jaghirdars of Native states will best consult their interests by employing this firm as their BOMBAY AGENTS.

HOUSE, LAND, AND ESTATE AGENCY.—A Register kept of Houses, &c., wanted, and of all properties in the Market, which affords the best means of meeting the requirements of VENDORS, PURCHASERS, and all who wish to HIRE or LET HOUSES, OFFICES, &c

ADVANCES on fixed and equitable mortgages deposit of title deeds.

LOANS on every description of tangible or good personal security. Secrecy and dispatch guaranteed.

MOFUSSIL AGENCY.—Up-country residents will find it greatly to their advantage to place all their ORDERS and COMMISSIONS in our hands. We undertake to execute them with care and fidelity and to give complete satisfaction.

GOVERNMENT PAPER, Stocks and Shares bought and sold, and advice given as to investments.

RECOVERY OF OUTSTANDINGS, RENT, and DEBTS collected and recovered.

PARTNERSHIP AND BUSINESS AGENCY.—Partnerships negotiated. Partners with capital introduced. Capital procured for starting businesses. Purchases and Sales of businesses negotiated.

LEGAL MATTERS, APPEALS, NEGOTIATIONS, PRIVATE ENQUIRIES, SETTLEMENTS UNDER ARBITRATION, skilfully conducted.

NOTE.—Under Section 37 of the Civil Procedure Code, and under Power of Attorney, Messrs. S. R. BOTTLEWALLA & Co., act as the recognised Agents of mofussil constituents, thus saving them the necessity of coming to Bombay to file and conduct their cases.

FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCES effected with the best Offices and at the most favourable rates.

CHARGES: Moderate. TERMS on Application.

OFFICES:

18, BANK STREET, FORT, BOMBAY,

OVER MESSRS. CRAWFORD & Co., (Auctioneers.)

LANOWLI HOTEL.

EXCELLENT AND LOFTY SITUATION NEAR RYEWOOD.

BEST CUISINE

OPENED FROM 1ST NOVEMBER UNDER ENTIRE NEW MANAGEMENT FOR EUROPEANS ONLY.

For further Particulars apply MANAGER.

BOMBAY BANK AND STOCK LIST.

BANKS.

	Shares.	Amount.	Paid-up.	Last Half Yearly. Divid.	Cash Rate.
INDIAN BANKS.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bank of Bombay	20,000	500	all	10 p. c. & 1 bon.	1,235
Bank of Bengal	40,000	00	all	10 pr. ct.	1,197½
Bank of Madras	10,000	500	all	10 pr. ct.	1,140
Commercial	10,000	100	100	6 p.c.	90
Bank of India.	15,000		75		
EXCHANGE BANKS.					
Agra	1,00,000	£6	all	3 pr. ct.	80
Charter Bank.	40,000	£20	£20	10 pr. ct.	£29 1-2
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	80,000	dol. 125	all	£1-10-0	£571
National Bank of India	40,000	£25	£12 1-2	8 pr. ct.	

SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANIES.

				Half yearly.	
Ahmedabad Advantage	70	1,000	000	Nil	
Alliance	1,500	1,100	all	1 bon.	225
Anglo-Indian	1,315		0	Nil	28
Assur Veerjee Mill Ltd.	In all 2000 Shares of which 1602 have been allotted.	Rs. 500 each	Fully paid up	Rs. 25 12 1-2	nom.
Aurangabad S. & M. Co., Ld.		1,000	1,000		60
Ballary S. & W. Co., Ld. (Bellary)	971	60	all	9 per ct.	1,00)
Berar Manfg Co., Ld	2,758	550,000	200	12 1-2	165
Bombay United	90	1,000	1,000	Nil	350
Bombay Cotton Manfg. Co.	90	500	500	dvdRs 2)	425
Bombay National Manfg. Co, Ld	500	1,000	1,000		90
Britannia Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.5.	400
Bombay Woollen Manfg. Co. Ld	650	1,000	1,000	10 per ct.	1,00)
Central India	1,000	500	500	dvdRs.50	1,700
China Mills Co. Ld.,	800	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.3.	400
City of Bombay Mills	800	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.2.)	500
Coimbatore S. and W	6,000	100	100	9 pr ct.	1
Connaught Mills	600	500	500	25	525
Colaba Land & Mills	4,000	700	...	Rs. 10	390
Coorla Mills	800	1,000	1,000	Rs. 2.	460xd
Curriembhoy Mills	80	1,000	1,000	dvdRs60	600
David Mill	1,400	500	500	dvdRs30	590
Dhulia Ginning and Pressing Co., Ld.	400	250	all	dvdRs20	255
Dhun Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	Nil	150
Empress	2,100	500	500	Nil	300
Framjee Petit.	1,250	1,000	1,000	Nil	300
Hindustan	875	1,000	1,000	Nil	265
Hinguughat Mills	700	500	500	40	670
Howard and Bullooghs	1,500	500	500	50	500
Hope Mills	500	1,000	1,000	30	450
Hyderabad	700	1,000	1,000	20	1,285
Imperial Cotton	900	500	500	Nil	150
Indian Manfg.	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd 30	4.0
Indo-China Manufacturing Co., Ld.	700	1,000	1,000	dvdRs 50	500
James Greaves,	1,100	500	500	25	460xd
Jaffer Alli	600	500	500	dvdRs 20	220
Jamshed Manufacturing Co.	1,800	250	250	Nil	125
Jewraj Balloo.	1,000	1,000	1,000	no dvd	425
Jubilee Mills Co., Ld.	8,430	1,000	1,000	20	300
Khandesh	7,500	1,500	1,000	dvdRs65	705
Khanguam Manfg. Co.	1,000	250	250	65	500xd
Khatao Mackunjee	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvdRs25	480
Leopold	3,500	100	100	dvdRs.5	150
Lord Reay Mfg	445	1,000	1,000	30	200
Lakmidas Spinning & Weaving Co.	1,000	1,000	1,000	Nil	500
Madras United	356	1,000	1,000	Rs 100	2,000
Mahalaxmee	600	1,000	1,000	Nil	75
Mahboob Shah Mills (Gulburga)	8,400	500	500	pr ct.	...
Manockjee Petit	4,000	1,000	1,000	vd 60	1,725
Mohanlal K. Parekh G & Mfg Co. Ld.,	300	100	115	dvdRs15	...
Muzagon	5,000	250	...	dvdRs. 5	50
Morarji Goculdas	1,050	1,000	1,000	dvdRs15	1,250
Mysore S & M. Co., Ld	4,000	250	250	dvdRs15	200
Madura Mills	7,779	100	100	Nil	...
National	500	1,000	1,000	Nil	pa 52
New Great Eastern	1,400	1,000	1,000	Rs. 20	120
Oriental	6,725	625	25	dvd Nil	20
Presidency Mills. Co.(Ld).	742	1,	1,000	dvdRs50	570
Queen Mills	800	1,000	1,000	Rs50	500
Ripon Mills	600	1,000	1,000	Nil	685
Saraswati Mills	1,250	500	500	Nil	500
Sassoon	1,500	1,000	1,000	dvdRs20	1,450
Sholapore Mills	500	1,000	1,000	dvdRs75	1,550
Soonderdas	750	1,000	1,000	Rs30	345
Southern India	1,000	500	500	Nil	100
Southern Mahratta	1,212	250	250	dvRs 124	240
Sun Mills, Ld.	1,300	250	250	Rs. 15	225
Standard Mills Co.	1,000	500	500	15	140
Star of India	1,000	1,000	1,000	Nil	665
Swadeshi Mills	3,000	500	500	dvdRs22½	53
Sassoon and Alliance	3,000	500	500	dvdRs20	260
Union Spinning and Manufacturing Co	500	1,000	1,000	50	
Union Mills Ld.	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvdRs20	250
Venishanker Lakhmidas Khanker Mill Co. Ld.,	900	500	500	dvdRs40	410xd
Victoria Mills.	550	1,000	1,000	Nil	2
Western India,	1,200	1,000	1,000	dvdRs50	225
Wadhwan City Ginning Pressing & Manufacturing Co., Ld	400	50	all	dvdR-	25
Wadia Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	81	...

PRESS COMPANIES.

				Yearly.	
Akbar	200	1,250	1,250	125	1,300xd
Albert Ginning Co.	100	500	all	18 pr. ct.	410
Albert (Kurrachee)	200	1,100	1,100	Rs. 80	725
Bellary	167	1,000	1,000	dvd 14 x	16
Bhownugger (Ity Press & Manfg. Co.Ld	550	250	250	25	275
Bombay Cotton	1,000	125	125	Nil.	75
Breuls Carnpore Press Co., Ld	500	200	200	dvdRs30	180xd
Broach City Press Co., Ld	600	200	200	dv Rs 20	200xd
Colaba	500	1,880	1,880	dvdRs 15	315
East India	350	1,000	1,000	125	1,350
English Press and Manfg	400	200	...	dvd Rs 9	60
Fort	150	8,300	500	dvd Rs20	630
French	300	500	500	dvd Rs40	510
Harvey and Sahapathy	450	450	500	dvd Rs35	342xd
Hingoli Press Co., Ld	700	100	100	Rs 17	133xd
Khangaum	240	450	450	dvdRs 80	475xd
Mahuva Press Co., Ld	300	200	all	15 pr. ct.	225
Mahmadpura Cotton G. and P. Co., Ld	300	500	500	53	55
Mercantile	600	125	125	dvd Rs 5	60
Mofussil Co	125	400	400	dvd Rs35	385
Munmar M.	000	250	all	dvd Rs20	180
New Berar	00	500	500	dvd Rs50	460
New Indian	00	125	125	dv Rs12½	135
Prince of Wales	100	500	00	20	165
Sabapathy (Bellary)	500	500	70	30	340
Sassoon	300	500	500	20	340xd
Sind and Punjab Co.	100	1,000	1,000	125	985
Sind	400	2,000	750	20	1,800
Sorab Woollen Mills	200	250	250	Nil.	310
Surat City Press Co., Ld.	37	200	all	1	75
Volkart	...	000	...	Rs 80	850

RAILWAY COMPANIES.

G. I. P. R. Consolidated Stock	...	£100	...	...	...
B. B. & C. I. R. Co. New £12 Shares	...	£10	...	...	...
Ahmedabad Prantej Ry.	500	500	..	4 pr. ct.	590
Tapti Valley Ry. Co.	500	500	...	4 pr. ct.	555

At the sitting of the Reichsrath on Oct. 28, Dr. von Korber, Minister of the Interior, replied to various interpellations on the subject of the recent disturbances in Moravia and Bohemia. The Minister made a long statement proving the disturbances to have been of an even graver character than had been supposed. He remarked that they seemed to have been prepared some time in advance, and were apparently not of an exclusively political nature. It is clear from the particulars contained in his Excellency's statement, says the *Times'* correspondent, that they were directed in a great measure against the Jews.

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 6h. 12m. Sun sets, 5h. 21m. High water, 2-17m., 2-37a. Low water, 8-54m., 8-6a.
Municipal Corporation, 3 p.m.
B. V. R., Battalion parade.
University Examination Results, S. C. E., L. C. E. Intermediate Science Examination, F. Ag. Examination.
Concert, G. I. P. Railway Institute, Parel.

POLO.—The ground will be reserved for practice.

VICTORIA DOCK.—The steamer Nuddia, entered, and the steamer Parramatta left the dock yesterday.

PRINCE'S DOCK.—The steamer Setos entered, and the steamers Penta Cotta and Lindula left the dock yesterday.

FIFTH CRIMINAL SESSIONS.—The business of the fifth Criminal Sessions of the High Court terminated last evening, and the Sessions were formally dissolved at a late hour.

ENTERTAINMENT TO MR. JOHN FACHIRI.—An entertainment will be given at 9 o'clock this evening, in honour of Mr. John Fachiri at Mr. Chuttoorbhooj Morarjee's bungalow at Tardeo.

DANGER OF LETTING OFF CRACKERS.—On Tuesday evening, one Mahomed Ahmed, who resides at Nagdevie Street, returned home from a drive, and while the carriage and horse were standing in front of the house, the animal suddenly bolted through some one letting off a cracker. The horse ran against a wall and received injury, from which it died shortly after. No one was injured.

THEFT BY A BUTLER.—At the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, before Mr. J. Sanders-Slater, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Abdul Masjid Noor Mahomed, a butler, was charged with stealing a despatch box of the value of Rs. 50, belonging to Lieutenant V. G. Menzies. The accused was residing in Colaba, a short time ago, when he stole the box from complainant and proceeded with it to Mhow. He was arrested by the Mhow police, and the property recovered from him. He was convicted and sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment.

MR. D. MACROPOLO'S CALENDAR.—We have to acknowledge with thanks the present of an excellent Calendar for 1900 from Mr. D. Macropolo, the well-known cigar and cigaretts manufacturer and general tobacconist of Church Gate Street, Bombay, Calcutta, Cairo and Cavalla, general purveyor to the Khedivial family, to H. H. Prince George of Greece, the Governor-General of India, the Governor of Bombay, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, &c. The Calendar is beautifully illuminated in colours and gold. A useful thermometer, fixed in the middle of the Calendar, is surmounted by a medallion, which shows the "unspeakable Turk," reclining against a pillow and smoking his long pipe. In the corners at the bottom are a medallion of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress and a representation of a temple of worship with a pair of flying doves, bearing the message of peace and happiness.

CHARGE OF GRIEVOUS HURT.—At the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, before Mr. J. W. S. Dracup, Acting Third Presidency Magistrate, G. Garnett, a Private in the Norfolk Regiment, stationed at Colaba, was charged with causing grievous hurt to one Salloo Fernandez, a cook. It appears that on the 20th instant, the complainant placed a plate on the table where the accused had sat to take his dinner, but the plate being a wrong one, the accused took up a table-knife and flung it at the complainant. The knife struck the complainant on the back of the left leg, cutting a tendon right through. Assistant Surgeon Joseph Alexander Cordeiro stated in his evidence that complainant came to Station Hospital, Colaba, with a note from Sergeant Francis, attended by a friend. The wound on him was three and-a-half inches above the heel and was likely to maim him for life. The accused was admitted to bail on his own recognisance for Rs. 300 and a surety for a like amount. The case was remanded till the 13th proximo.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A RIDER.—At the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, yesterday morning, Mr. Allan F. Turner, the Coroner, held an inquiry regarding the death of Gooljari Raghoonath, a Purdesee, aged about twenty-five years, having no fixed place of residence. On the morning of the 10th instant, deceased was leading an Arab horse from the Prince's Dock to Omer Jamal's stables at Bellasis Road. On the way Gooljari mounted the animal, and while riding near Messrs. Treacher's establishment at Bellasis Road, the horse stripped and fell, throwing the rider down on the ground. The deceased received abrasions on the left knee and left elbow. He did not take much notice of the injury, and no report of the accident was made to the police. About a week after symptoms of tetanus supervened, when deceased walked to the hospital, where he was admitted under treatment. The police were then informed and deceased then told them of the accident he had met with. After admission the symptoms increased and the man died on Tuesday evening. A verdict of accidental death in accordance with the above facts was returned by the jury.

AN UNPROTECTED WELL.—On Tuesday afternoon, the dead body of a Hindu girl, apparently aged about seven years, was found floating on the surface of the water in a well belonging to Minguel's Oart, off Matharpakady Road, Mazagon, by a Hindu labourer, who informed the police. Constable Giles proceeded to the well and had the body removed. There were no external marks of violence on the body, and it was not decomposed. The deceased appeared to be of the Malar caste. The body was not emaciated, and there was a glass bead necklace round the neck. A *battakee* was beaten throughout the town, and a number of persons saw the body, but none came forward to identify it. No girl had been reported missing from any parts of the town. The depth of the water in the well is about thirty feet. The parapet wall of the well on the road side is all broken. The well water is drawn up by bullocks and is only used for watering the trees in Minguel's Oart. Mr. Allan F. Turner, the Coroner, held an inquiry, yesterday, regarding the death of the deceased, when the jury on the evidence returned the following verdict:—"The dead body of the deceased was found floating in a well belonging to Minguel's Oart off Matharpakady Road, but how or under what circumstances she met with her death there is no evidence to show. The jury are of opinion that the well on the roadside of it should be properly protected as the wall is broken down.

BURGLARS CAUGHT RED-HANDED.—Before Mr. P. H. Daster, Acting Second Presidency Magistrate, at the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, three Mahomedans, named Ebrahim Reshun, Janmahomed alias Fakir and Chatoo Koomar were charged by Inspector Mirza Mahomedali, of the Criminal Investigation Department, with house-breaking and theft of a number of silver and metal watches of the value of Rs. 300, belonging to Ali Mordankhan, a watch-maker, having his place of business at Ripon Road. In consequence of certain information previously received, detectives were deputed to watch the movements of the accused. Following them on two successive nights, the detectives noticed the three accused breaking the lock of the complainant's shop about 11 o'clock on Saturday night. The burglars then made their way into the shop and shortly afterwards came out with a tin box, containing a number of metal and silver watches. Ebahibux and Jan Mahomed were arrested by the police on the spot, with the property in their possession, but the third man, Chotu, made good his escape. He was arrested on the following day in his house at Falkland Road, but no property was found with him. The complainant identified the property as his own. The first two accused, who pleaded guilty to the charge, were sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment each. The third accused was discharged for want of sufficient evidence.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY MAJOR W. G. WILSON, COMMANDING B. V. A.

Bombay, 23rd November, 1899.

1. The following drills will take place to-day:—
No 1 Co (Town Hall Compound).
At 8-45 p.m., 40 Pr R M L Gun Drill.
No. 2 Co (Nesbit Road Headquarters)
At 8-45 p.m., 40 Pr R M L Gun Drills.
2. The Corps will parade at the Corps Club, Apollo Bunder, on Saturday next the 25th instant at 4 p.m. sharp, and proceed to Pilot Bunder, Colaba, to continue the Annual Gun Target practice.

By Order,
A. J. PEILE, Captain, R. A.
Adjutant, B. V. A.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY LIEUT.-COL. E. FERRERS NICHOLSON, COMMANDING B. V. R.

Bombay, 23rd November, 1899.

1. The following members having joined are taken on the strength of the Corps from this date and posted to Companies as follows:—No 4721 Vol E W Reid to "A" Company and No 4728 Vol F S Wadia, No 4729 Vol A R Wadia and No 4730 Vol C Coulson to "C" Company.
2. Particulars of the Prizes offered by the Commanding Officer for class-firing and Attendances at Parades for the Adult and Cadet Companies are with Officers Commanding Companies and can be seen at Head-quarters.
3. Targets will be ready from 7 to 8 a.m., to-morrow Friday the 24th instant, at the Revolver Range of the 21st Bombay Infantry (Marine Lines) for all Officers and Sergeants who may wish to practise.

By Order,
P. H. ROGERS, Capt.
Adjutant, B. V. R.

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

FIFTH CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

THE Hon. Mr. Justice Tyebjee presided at a sitting of the court yesterday, when the following case was tried before his lordship and a common jury.

BEING IN POSSESSION OF FORGED DOCUMENTS.

Bhau Manasa Guzar was charged with having, on the 26th September last, in his possession certain documents, purporting to be valuable securities, and knowing them to be forged, with the intention of using them as genuine. Mr. Young, instructed by Mr. Nicholson, Public Prosecutor, appeared for the Crown; and Mr. F. Sorabjee Taleyarkhan, instructed by Mr. M. N. Saklatwalla, appeared for the defence.

Mr. Young, in addressing the jury, briefly stated the facts of the case. The complainant was a man named Bhicoo Gopal, who resided at Ghada in the Poona district. The accused was a grocer, having his shop in Bombay. There had been monetary transactions between the two men. In course of time a sum of about Rs. 381 became due to the complainant and he brought a suit in the Ked district court to recover the amount. After the case had been partly heard, the accused met the complainant outside the court and asked him to settle the case for Rs. 250. On the complainant refusing to do so, the accused produced two documents which were blank, with the exception of bearing the name of the complainant. The documents were promissory notes, and the accused threatened that, if the complainant did not settle the case, he (the accused) would institute a suit in the Bombay Small Causes Court to recover the value of the notes, which the complainant said were forgeries. The complainant afterwards received information and obtained a search warrant, which was executed and the forged notes were found in the accused's shop. The accused was then arrested. Mr. Young said the questions for the jury would be whether the documents were found in the possession of the accused; whether they were forgeries, and whether the accused intended to make use of them. The prosecution did not intend to show that the accused had actually forged the notes, but would prove that he was in possession of them, and that he knew they were forged.

At the close of the case for the prosecution, Mr. Young, in summing up the evidence said it had fairly enough proved that the prisoner was guilty of the charges preferred against him. It had been proved that he was in possession of the forged documents, and not only that, but that he did intend to use them, and did use them twice in threatening to use them by bringing suits against the complainant.

Mr. Taleyarkhan, in addressing the jury for the defence, said the story for the prosecution was the most grossly improbable story ever told in a court of justice. It was most improbable that the accused would bring out the two documents after the whole case was closed. The claim of the complainant was for Rs. 300; and the absurd allegation was made that the accused offered to settle the claim for Rs. 250, and threatened to use the dangerous documents he had in his pocket for the miserable sum of Rs. 50. And would he use the threat in the presence and hearing of a number of persons who might give evidence against him? Would he not take the complainant aside into a corner and say to him "Look here, I have got these documents to sue you upon, and unless you agree to my terms, I will sue you." Instead of that, the accused was said to have proclaimed to all that he carried the dangerous documents in his pocket, and would use them as soon as he liked. His proper course would have been to have kept quiet till the moment when he actually sued the complainant. If the threat was really used, why did not the complainant go at once to the Foujdar and disclose to him the forgery the accused admitted that he had committed? Then the Bombay story was worse than the Khed story. The accused totally denied all knowledge of the forged notes; he denied being in possession of them at Khed or in Bombay, asserting that they must have been placed in his shop by the complainant or any of his friends.

His lordship reviewed the evidence at great length. He said it was very regrettable that the search of the prisoner's shop in Bombay was conducted in a loose manner without the necessary precautions against any body introducing the papers unlawfully. It was argued for the defence that the papers had been introduced by the complainant or any of his friends who were allowed to be present without being previously searched by the police. There was an important discrepancy as to the finding of the papers between the evidence of the police and complainant. The latter said that the papers were found inside a bundle of papers in a box, which was closed with a lid; while the police said, that they were found lying wide open between two boxes.

The jury retired at 5-40 p.m. to consider their verdict; and on their return into court at 6 p.m., the foreman delivered a verdict of guilty of 8 to 1.

His lord-hip told the jury to try and he unanimous.

In a few minutes more, the foreman delivered a unanimous verdict of guilty on all counts.

His lorship, in passing sentence, said the maximum punishment for the offence was seven years, but he would sentence him to two years' rigorous imprisonment.

This being the last case for trial, the Sessions were dissolved at 6-10 p.m.

MANUFACTURING FIREWORKS WITHOUT A LICENSE.

AT the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Damodar Pootlaji appeared before Mr. S. B. Spencer, to answer a summons taken out against him by Mr. D. B. Banajee, Acting Superintendent of License in the Bombay Municipality, charging him with, having on November 1st, manufactured fireworks in excess of the licensed quantity, and thereby infringing condition No. 1 of his license granted to him under Section 394 of the Bombay Municipal Act III of 1888. Mr. Crawford, of Messrs. Crawford, Brown and Co., prosecuted on behalf of the Bombay Municipality, and Mr. Hugh Sealy, pleader, defended the accused.

Syed Effendi, inspector in the License Department, deposed that he knew the premises of the accused at Lady Jamsetji Road, Mahim. On the 1st instant he visited the premises of the accused and inspected the quantity of explosives he had in his possession. He found loose explosive powder eighty-three pounds, fireworks (anars) eighty-three pounds, and "fool-bajees" twenty pounds, in all one hundred and eighty-six pounds. He weighed the articles in the presence of the accused and his workmen. By the license granted to the accused the latter was not to keep more than fifty pounds of explosives.

Jehangeer Rustomjee Dhondi, sub-inspector, and a peon employed in the License Department were examined, and they corroborated the statement of the Inspector Syed Effendi.

Mr. Sealy, on behalf of the accused, stated that he did not wish to dispute the truth of the prosecution. He pleaded guilty and asked that the accused might be leniently dealt with, because he had this excess of gunpowder in ignorance of the fact the he was not authorized to take into account the license of his brother, who had the liberty to manufacture gunpowder in another place to the extent of one hundred pounds.

The Magistrate, in convicting the accused, said as the accused pleaded guilty, and this being his first offence, he would be fined Rs. 100.

After the disposal of this case the accused was further charged, with using a place for sale or storage of blasting powder without a license from the Municipal Commissioner.

The accused, on pleading guilty, was sentenced to pay a nominal fine of Re. 1.

Immediately after the disposal of the above cases, Lukhmidas and Abdool Rahiman, dealers in fireworks at Haines Road, were charged before the same Magistrate with a similar offence.

Mr. Crawford, solicitor, also prosecuted, the accused, being defended by Mr. Sorabjee Kapadia, pleader.

At the outset Mr. Kapadia, on behalf of the accused pleaded guilty and asked the court to warn and discharge his client.

Mr. Crawford, on behalf of the Municipality, said he did not press the charge because accused might have had some doubts as to the meaning of the license conditions.

The Magistrate sentenced the accused to pay a fine of Rs. 5 each.

INSOLVENT DEBTORS' COURT.

THE Hon. Mr. Justice Russell presided at a sitting of the Court yesterday.

RE KRISHNARAM SITTARAM.

Mr. Ardaser Kapadia applied for leave to amend the schedule, which was granted.

RE LALJEE KHATAD.

Mr. Manker, for the insolvent, applied for an extension of the interim order. Mr. Starling opposed the application on the ground that insolvent had not lodged with the Official Assignee the books of account of the firm of which he was a partner. Mr. Mankar said insolvent had a minor share in the business, and the Official Assignee had been put in motion to get the books, but no reply had yet been received. His lordship granted a week's extension of the interim order.

RE VASSONJEE POONSEY.

Mr. Manker, for the insolvent, asked for an interim order. Mr. Starling, for a creditor, opposed the application. Mr. Manker said no opposition had been filed. His lordship granted a week's extension of the interim order.

RE NATHU KHETSEY.

Mr. Manker, for the insolvent, applied for an interim order, which his lordship granted for a week.

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

NEW MOFUSSIL COMPANY, LD.

THE ninth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of this company was held yesterday afternoon, at its registered offices, No. 27, Hummum Street, Fort. Mr. Nowroji Jehanghir Gamudia, chairman of the board of directors, presided. The notice convening the meeting having been read, the following directors' report, which had been circulated amongst the shareholders, was taken as read:—

The directors have now to lay before the shareholders their report, and also the balance-sheet and profit and loss account of the company for the year ending 30th June 1899. The cotton crop this season has been a good one, and the company's share as regards pressing and ginning may be considered satisfactory. The number of bales pressed in your factories amounts to 153,532 bales against 100,795 bales last year, and 104,249 bales the year before. The new ginning factory at Etawah and the new press and ginning factories at Moortizapore were ready for the season and have worked satisfactorily. Your directors regret to inform you that the Bhilwara Purwana having expired the Oodeypore State refused to renew the same on any terms, and exercising its right has purchased the company's property—the balance of this account has been written off the profits of this year. The profits of the year amount to Rs. 373, 240-3-3, from which your directors have written off and set aside to:—Bhilwara Factory Account, Rs. 36,167-6-11; Reserve Fund Account, Rs. 75,000; Fire Insurance Fund Account, Rs. 10,000; Doubtful Debts Account, Rs. 10,000; Depreciation Account, Rs. 75,000. From the sum remaining, Rs. 137,072-12-4, your directors recommend a dividend of Rs. 40 per share, which will absorb Rs. 1,25,000, and the balance Rs. 12,072-12 will be carried forward to next year's account; out of this your directors ask permission to pay at their discretion a month's salary as a bonus to the Bombay employes. Your directors regret that, owing to ill health, Mr. Lalji Shamji was compelled to resign his seat at the Board, which he held six years

NOTICE.

THE public are hereby informed, that Messrs. COOPER ALLEN & Co., Proprietors of the Government Boot and Army Equipment Factory, Cawnpore, are the only persons who have been authorised to make and sell cavalry saddles of the pattern and make invented by me, the specifications of which have been registered under the "Patent" Acts in Great Britain and elsewhere, also under the "Inventions and Designs" Act of 1888 of the Governor General of India in Council, for the manufacture and sale of which I have by the aforesaid Acts acquired the exclusive privilege in Great Britain and elsewhere. Saddles of this description and the component metal parts can thus only be made and sold by Messrs. Cooper Allen and Co., and any person or persons making or selling such saddles or the component metal parts thereof, are hereby advised that they will be liable to proceedings for infringement as provided by law.

(Sd.) A. H. GLEADOWE-NEWCOMES.
Cawnpore, 16th November, 1899.

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ADJUSTMENTS
Of Theodolites, Nautical, Astronomical and Optical Instruments.
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In all its branches has been recognised to be our specialities, and no other firm on this side is up to date able to challenge our firm in the above branches.
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Rs. 50 FOR Rs. 25.
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SILVER GILT WATCHES.

WE have an Excellent Collection of key wind Silver Gilt WATCHES, the lever movements of which are really FIRST CLASS, and in the ordinary way, quality for quality should sell for Rs. 50 each; but as preference is now given to Stem-wind Watches, we offer these excellent time-keepers to those who do not consider a key-wind watch inconvenient at the bargain and Clearance Price of

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Complete in case with spare glass, main spring and a guarantee for 2 years.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

WEDNESDAY EVENING, Nov. 22.

In Consols there was a further drop in London yesterday, of 1-4 per cent., to 103 3-16. French Rentes advanced 1-4 per cent., to 100 1-2; but Paris exchange on London continued at 25·24 fcs. Indian Sterling Loan was 1 per cent. higher, at 112 1-2; and 3 1-2 per cent. Rupee Securities advanced 1-8 per cent., to £64 3-8. Exchange on India at 30 days' sight remains at 1s. 3 7-8d. Bar Silver was unchanged at 27 1-16d. per oz.; and in New York the metal was 1-8 cent. higher at 58 7-8 cents per oz. with demand Exchange on London 1-4 cent. lower at 4·85 5-8 dollars.

The total quantity of wheat afloat for the United Kingdom on Friday last was 1,560,000 quarters compared with 1,570,000 quarters at the end of the previous week.

Brown Rapeseed was quoted yesterday at 37*s.* per 416 lbs., November-December shipment, to Antwerp, sellers via the Canal, market firmer.

The Liverpool Wool auction opened yesterday. There was good competition, and prices were rather firmer. "Yellow" and "Grey" were 1-4 to 1-2d. per lb. higher; "Joria Whites" 3-4d., and other "Whites" at par to 1-4d. higher. The number of bales offered was 24,000.

The cotton market in Liverpool closed steady yesterday, Surats quiet, Arrivals steady. Spot prices were stationary; but American Arrivals were 1-64 to 3-64d. lower, extreme quotations being 4 1-64d. for November, and 3 61-64d. for March to April. The day's Sales were 10,000 bales, including 100 bales Surats; and the Imports 77,000 bales. The Manchester market closed quiet.

In New York Ready Mid-Uplands remained at 7 9-16 cents per lb.; February Futures 6 points higher, at 7·34 cents, and May 5 points, at 7·40 cents. The Receipts at the U. S. Ports were 58,000 bales.

In our local Cotton market a little more business has passed to-day, Shippers buying 1,300 bales, and the Mills 3,300 bales. For "Good" Broach, March delivery, Rs. 211 per candy was quoted; "Fully Good" Bengal, for January, Rs. 174; "Good" Bhownugger, for May, Rs. 193.

The Receipts of Produce into Bombay yesterday were as follows:—

Cotton	7,725	bales.
Wheat	4,495	cwts.
Linseed	593	,,
Rapeseed	1,286	,,
Gingellyseed	8,722	,,
Poppyseed	852	,,
Rice	123,993	,,

FREIGHTS continue quiet in tone. A line of a fair amount of wool for Liverpool per s. s. Crowe Hall was done at 17s. per ton, and 17s. 6d. is since asked.

EXCHANGE.—The market opened steady at 1s. 4 3-32d. for Bank Telegraphic and Demand, and 1s. 4 11-32d. for three months' sight credits. Bank Demand was reported done to a moderate extent at 1s. 4 1-8d.; the supply of merchants' paper was very limited; and rates closed steady as follows:—

Bank Bills on Demand	1s. 4 3-32d.	Per Rupee.
Do. Telegraphic	1s. 4 3-32d.	,,
Credits 3 months' Sight	1s. 4 11-32d.	,,
Francs	171 3-4	,,

GOVERNMENT PAPER.—The feeling has been rather a steady one to-day with 96 3-4 quoted for cash, for 3 1-2 per cents, 96 11-16 for the settlement, and 91 for Threes.

SHARES are quiet. Bank of Bombay are Rs. 17 1-2 higher, at Rs. 1,235 per share.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

COLOMBO, Nov. 22.

Mail steamer Oceana from Australia, arrived.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, Nov. 21.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed steady. Surats quiet.

Good Bhownuggur, 3 13-32.

The Manchester Market has been quiet.

2 3-4 per cent. Consols	103 3-16
3 per cent. Rentes	100 1-2
3 1-2 per cent. Sterling Loan	112 1-2
3 1-2 per cent. Rupee Paper	64 3-8
Bar Silver	27 1-16

The sum of about £150,000 has been withdrawn from the Bank of England.

TELEGRAPHIC LINE REPORT.

NOVEMBER 21.

STATE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect Via Suez, perfect.
CONTINENT OF EUROPE.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.
AMERICA.—Via Brest, perfect. Via Valentia, perfect. Via Direct Cable, perfect.
AUSTRALIA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect.
CHINA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect. Via Bhamo, perfect.
AFRICA.—Via Aden, perfect. Via Cadiz Teneriffe, perfect. Via Lisbon St. Vincent perfect.
Restrictions:—
Telegrams for Panaj Negros (Visayas Islands) are subject to same restrictions as Philippine Islands but are subject to censure of United States Government.
Censure imposed at Manila (Philippines) on all telegrams containing political news.
Post Master General London announces that British Government have decided to suspend at Aden and at the Cape of Good Hope the transmission of all telegrams in Code or Cipher whether of foreign Governments or private person to or from Zanzibar Seychelles, Mauritius, Madagascar and every place in German East Africa Mozambique Delagoa Bay Rhodesia British Central Africa.
Orange Free State Transvaal Cape Colony and Natal Telegrams in plain language are subject to censorshi and can only be accepted at the risk of the sender.
Censorship has been established at Panja and Buena ventura in United States of Columbia. Telegrams for the interior can be accepted, except for the following offices. Cartagena, Barranquilla, Cucuta, Ocana and Bucaramanga.
Restrictions on private telegraphic correspondence to and from Azores removed, but still apply to telegrams addressed to Madeira.
State of communication:—
Cable Jamaica Colon interrupted,
Cable Cayenne Pinheiros interrupted.
Cable Zanzibar Mombassa interrupted.
Telegrams for Madagascar except Majunga are subject to delay during period of October to March, owing to daily storms experienced.
Telegrams for British Guiana are conveyed frequently by steamer without alteration of charges.
Communication between Natal on one side and Orange Free State and Transvaal on the other entirely suspended.
Communication between Cape Colony on one side and Orange Free State and Transvaal on the other entirely suspended.
Communication with mafeking (Bechuanaland) and beyond interrupted,
Communication with all officer beyond the Orange River interrupted this outs off telegraph Communication with British Bechuanaland Southern Rhodesia Nyassala and Portugese Zambesia
There is no land line communication from Mozambique to Beira.
There is a land line between Beira and Quilimane.
Press telegrams can now be exceanged with South Africa la Aden only at Rs. 1·3 per word.

FOREIGN TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE.

Latest dates of Foreign Messages received at Bombay from the United Kingdom during the 24 hours ending at 8 p.m., of the 22nd November, 1899.
(Difference in Longitude allowed for.)

Via.	Latest Dates. D.	H.	M.	Time occupied in transmission. Hours.	Minutes
Turkey	...	..	...	...	..
Teheran	22	12	20 p.m.	4	32
Suez	22	2	5 p.m.	...	35

Time occupied in the transmission of messages to Bombay during the 24 hours ending 8 p.m., of the 22nd November, 1899

	Maximum Time. H.	M.	Minimum Time. H.	M.
From Calcutta	...	58	...	4
,, Karachi	1	30	...	3
,, Madras	...	55	...	1

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY, COLABA.
Bombay, 21st November, 1899.
Means of observations taken at 6 a.m., 10 a.m, 2 p.m. 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Barometer corrected 32 dex. Fah.	inches 30·001
Temperature of the Air	degrees 80·1
Wet Bulb Thermometer	77·3
Dew Point	69·7
Relative humidity of Air	0·685
Extent of cloudy sky (the whole sky clouded = 10)	0·0
Maximum temperature of air (read at 8 a.m.) next day	degrees 87·4
Minimum do. do. (read at 8 a.m.)	73·5
General Directions of wind*	ENE, NNE, ENE, NW, NNW, NE, ENE,
Movement of Wind in 24 hours*	miles 215

* From midnight to midnight.

N. A. F. MOSS.
Director, Government Observatory.

THERMOMETER READINGS.

TUESDAY NIGHT.—NOVEMBER 21.

10 p.m.	78·0

WEDNESDAY.—NOVEMBER 22.

6 a.m.	74·0
10 a.m.	80·7
2 p.m.	86·3
6 p.m.	80·4

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

COLES—November 14, at Nagpur, C P, the wife of H E Coles, D S Police, of a daughter.
JOLLY—November 15, at Mongbyr, the wife of William Jolly, District Engineer, of a son.
LOVETT—November 15, at Benares, the wife of H V Lovett, I C S, of a son.

The Bombay Gazette

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1899.

THE news from the front—or rather the two fronts—in South Africa, if meagre, is satisfactory. General Gatacre on Sunday last addressed his division at Queenstown in a characteristic speech, bidding the officers beware of the condemned distinguishing marks, of which they were once so proud, and informing his men that he will study their comfort, even if their backs ache from incessant marching. Two members of the Cape Assembly have disregarded Mr. Schreiner's sensible advice to keep "neutral" and have joined the Boers. So much the worse for them. A Duke, he of Portland, has given £10,000 to the Red Cross Society for ambulance work in South Africa. From Culcutta we are told some incredible things, purporting to come from London. The unrecorded and unknown battle in which, after a day's terrific fighting, 800 Boers were killed, and there were no casualties on our side, is again to the fore; the King's Royal Rifles defended the position—Ladysmith—the rest of the garrison apparently looking on, and defeated the enemy twice. Then we learn that the Boers suffer severely from dysentery, while scurvy has broken out amongst the British prisoners at Pretoria. As the latter are, no doubt, able to procure in this rainy season abundance of succulent vegetables, there is no reason whatever why they should get scurvy. Nor are the Boers, accustomed to the climate more likely to suffer from dysentery than the garrison of Ladysmith, where the rain has turned the soil too mire, and men live practically under-ground. These stories of strange epidemics are not confirmed from any other source. Of the rest, all that can be said is that in a few days there must be interesting, and perhaps decisive, developments in Natal and on the Orange River. The British force in Natal now numbers 24,000 men, including the 9,500 beleaguered in Ladysmith. The Boers are certainly more numerous, but their artillery is defective—their shells do not explode. That places them at a serious disadvantage that will probably be decisive. They have, however, cut the telegraph which kept Estcourt in communication with Durban. On the western side the Boers are preparing to resist the advance of Lord Methuen's fine column at Belmont, where they have plantad cannon. They have occupied a strong defensive position in the neighbouring hills. The Free Staters besieging Kimberley have been reinforced by a Transvaal commando. The siege of Mafeking continues, the Boers daily getting closer to the entrenchments. On the other hand Generals Clery and Gatacre have issued warnings to "waverers," threatening them with the consequences if they assist or join the Boers. At Capetown a new corps, the South African Horse, is being raised and 450 men have gone to the point. As might be expected both Cape Colony and Natal are suffering severely from the falling-off of revenue through the stoppage of business by the war. The railway receipts are especially affected.

THE Director-General of Statistics has been in Bombay on a special mission to ascertain the opinion of the commercial community on the removal of existing restrictions on the class of business which may be undertaken by the Presidency Banks, the sufficiency of the capital of the banks for enlarged business; and the advisability or otherwise of amalgamating the three banks into the Bank of India, with a greatly-enlarged capital. Mr. O'Conor, in the course of a somewhat prolonged stay, had frequent conferences with the committee of the Chamber of Commerce and with the leading capitalists, merchants, and men of business. As their interviews were informal and private, no reporters being present, we shall have to wait, until the Director-General's report to the Government of India appears in a Blue Book presented to Parliament, for an authoritative statement of the opinions elicited. But, speaking generally, we may without indiscretion state that there was a general concensus of opinion that the restrictions imposed by Government on the business to be undertaken by the banks ought to be removed. Special legislation was required to enable them to tender the funds required by the Bombay Trust, which were after all found, to the amount of fifty lakhs, by an outside bank, which procured the money in London. The Presidency Banks are prohibited from borrowing money in Lombard Street. The banks have been hitherto restricted from financing unguaranteed railways which the Government have sanctioned after being fully satisfied that the undertaking was sound and solvent. A natural corollary to the enlargement of the field of the banks' usefulness and enterprise would be the enlargement of their present capital. As it happens the banks have full power to enlarge their capital. With an exaggerated prudence—which may now be imputed to them as a fault,—they abstained from using their power. Except in the solitary instance of the Bank of Madras, which a short time since enlarged its capital to the limited extent of ten lakhs, none of the banks deemed it necessary to increase their capital. The Bank of Bengal can do so to the extent of two crores; the Bank of Bombay by one crore; the Bank of Madras by half-a-crore. The present capital of the three banks is three hundred and sixty lakhs, and their reserves about half as much more; the equivalent of the whole in sterling being £3,660,000. An addition of three-crores-and-a-half, which can presumably be raised without difficulty when required, would considerably increase this total, to meet the requirements of the banks if the present restrictions be removed, as they assuredly ought to be and must be. But the suggestion made by certain witnesses before the Currency Committee, principally representatives of the Rothschilds and other great financial houses, that the working of the new currency system and the maintenance of the par of exchange would be facilitated by the creation of a Bank of India with a capital variously estimated at twelve, fifteen, or twenty millions sterling, to be raissd in London, has found favour with the Secretary of State, with the Viceroy, and with the interim Minister of Finance.

It is no secret that the real object of of Mr. O'Conor's mission to the commercial community of Bombay was to win their acceptance of this idea—we cannot say scheme, for no concrete scheme has yet been forthcoming. The arguments for the "unification" of the three banks and their absorption into a new institution, with unlimited capital and greatly enlarged scale, are briefly these:—It is admitted that the Presidency Banks have worked well and done good service to the country; but it is alleged that the conditions under which they work are out of date and unsuited to modern requirements. When they were founded, the three Presidencies were practically isolated, having no communication by rail, which abridges distances. It is assumed that, if banks were to be founded, now that India has been unified, no one would dream of founding three separate banks of unequal dimensions. We quite agree that it is a serious drawback to the present arrangement, but one that might easily be removed—that, the banks being as isolated as the Presidencies, the resources of one cannot be made to subscribe to the needs of either of the others. It is suggested that India should follow the example of England and France, and some other countries, and have a Bank of India with a proportionate capital, to undertake the monetary business of all India, as the Bank of England finances England, and the Bank of France finances France. It may be doubted whether one bank would suffice in either case if England or France had a population of 300,000 million, the inhabitants of some of the provinces being as different in language, manners and usages, as Roumania or the Balkans differ from the Midlands or Normandy. But the Bank of India would be required to undertake to do many things which would surprise the Bank of England. The sterling capital of the bank, it is understood, will be employed to maintain the convertibility of the rupee. The Government does not care to undertake to risk the payment of gold for silver; but the bank will immediately, on the commencement of its operations, pay gold for silver, and continue to do so; it will not be afraid of the possible loss from which the Government itself instinctively shrinks. Now it is obvious that, unless the Government gives in some form an equivalent for the risk, and holds the bank harmless, the latter's chance of earning a dividend will be but small. It must keep a considerable part of its gold capital in the vaults, ready to meet any sudden demand. The gold thus kept in reserve to meet such a contingency will be so much dead capital, earning nothing, but on which a dividend must be paid. The Government will have passed on to the Bank of India, created ostensibly to expand industry, and develop the material resources of India, the responsibility of maintaining the equilibrium between gold and silver. The Bank of France, we know, succeeds in doing this. But in France such things are not done by halves. The Bank of France has the custody of the war chest, some 140 million sterling of gold, and a larger amount in silver token money. They pay gold as a rule, but reserve the right to pay only part of a sudden demand in notes or silver. A bank with over 200,000,000 sterling in its vaults can do many things that a Bank of India, with no such war chest to impose on the public imagination, could not possibly hope to do—maintain the equilibrium between the gold and silver currency.

As we have said, no scheme for the proposed bank has been presented even in embryo to those who were sounded on the subject. It is, therefore, impossible to come to any conclusion as to the practicability of Mr. A. de Rothschild's proposal, which has received the somewhat too eager approval of high personages in London and Calcutta. Those consulted here received the suggestion with every wish to be informed: they approached its consideration with an open mind. If a practicable scheme be matured and submitted, the mercantile community of Bombay will certainly give it careful consideration. There is something fascinating in a proposal that some fifteen or twenty millions of English capital should be at once introduced to stimulate industry, and work the great and practically-undeveloped resources of India. Unquestionably the present restrictions on the Presidency Banks are anomalous, and their removal is indispensable. If the unification of those banks be necessary to that end, and to the necessary enlargement of capital, the public might acquiesce in the change. But, if the necessary adaptations to the new conditions can be effected without such a radical, not to say revolutionary, change, the public probably would prefer reform to revolution. As we showed recently, the proposal is by no means new. It was made and urged with great zeal and ability on the Bombay business public by Sir Richard Temple some thirty years ago. He found it impossible, in a forthnight's propaganda in Bombay, to win approval for the proposal to merge the three banks in one. When Mr. O'Conor's report is published we shall be able to ascertain whether Bombay opinion on the subject has become modified by the lapse of years, and the emergence of new conditions. If that should prove to be the case, and if Calcutta and Madras concur in the desirability of merging their banks in a Bank of India, no doubt a working scheme will be formulated. At present nothing of the kind is before the public.

IN the report on Income Tax administration in the North-West Provinces and Oudh during last year there are some interesting observations in regard to the method of assessing the tax. Although the income tax is in principle the most equitable form of taxation that can be devised, few of us have any deep affection for it. It affects us too closely to be attractive; and the repugnance of the natural man to respond fairly to the inquisition of Revenue Officials on this head is too well known to need emphasis. At Home persons of peculiar scruples sometimes compromise with conscience and the Chancellor of the Exchequer by quietly remitting amounts previously withheld from the State by means of inaccurate income returns. The sums so received form an annual feature of the budget receipts and are aptly described as "Conscience money." When those things happen at Home it is not surprising that the collection of the income tax in India is attended by similar difficulties though in a more acute and extensive form. Human nature is not a matter of pigment; and the pocket is the universal tender point. In the North-West Provinces it has been found not an easy thing to induce a man to declare the extent of his income. Non-Official assessors have therefore been appointed to aid in the work of assessment, but it cannot be said that the system has been a complete success. Out of 38 districts, in which the experiment was tried, there are more or less favourable reports of its results from 29, but in the other nine districts it has been a failure. The successful operation of the system has been in the direction of ascertaining the relative incomes of the persons brought under assessment. There appears, however, to be a difficulty in finding men who will honestly state the incomes they are invited to help in assessing. They are more inclined to underestimate the amounts than to err on the other side. It is very interesting to note that in one district, that of Banda, the assessors are said to diminish to nothing the profits of their friends, but the balance of the revenue is sought to be preserved by magnifying the wealth of their enemies. At the same time, where the case of a mere acquaintance is concerned, the assessors in this district decline to express any opinion at all for fear of making fresh enemies. That is the true politeness of the native; if he cannot say the agreeable thing he prefers to say nothing at all. From Allahabad and Ghazipur come similar stories, while in Jhansi assessors make themselves agreeable by generally recommending reductions. In Mainpuri several persons actually asked the Collector if it was seriously expected that they were going to make enemies for themselves by divulging the incomes of their neighbours. In Lucknow, also, information was refused for fear of the displeasure of neighbours, and in Muttra more reliable information was obtainable from persons residing in neighbouring villages than from the residents of the villages or quarters assessed. In fact the system adopted seems to the native to be a very objectionable form of inquisition. The policy of calling upon persons to give information about their next-door neighbours in the case of an unpopular tax was strongly condemned by the late Mr. Galbraith of Agra.

THE Collector of Moradabad considers the system of great importance in arriving at the relative incomes of the persons assessed. A very ingenious experiment was adopted by the Deputy Commissioner of Hardoi, who consulted a committee of respectable gentlemen as to the incomes of various persons, and then invited the assessees to arrange themselves by vote in the order of their incomes. The results obtained by these separate methods closely resembled each other and satisfied him of the accuracy of the Committee's information regarding the relative means of the persons to be assessed. The Board of Revenue, however, have expressed the opinion that it was in approximately discovering the means of assessees that the opinions of the assessors would be of practical use; and in looking at the results obtained in this direction the Lieutenant-Governor desires the system to be extended throughout all the districts in the Provinces. Turning to the receipts from income tax during the year it is found that the total amount of the collection was Rs. 23,98,997. The number of persons assessed under the tax throughout the Provinces was 73,936. The receipts are less than they have been since 1894-95, and are Rs. 10,283 below those of 1897-98. This, however, is considered to indicate a return to healtheir conditions of assessment than prevailed during the three previous years. In those years agricultural depression and high prices gave big profits to grain dealers, but the trade is now assuming normal dimensions. The other causes for the decrease in the revenue from the tax are stated in the Government Resolution to be mainly accidental and non-recurring, a drop in the receipts on the profits from companies being due to the misfortunes of two concerns. Excluding receipts from official salaries or incomes from Government Securities, the incidence of the tax per thousand of the population was Rs. 43 as in the previous year. One person in every 689 was assessed as against one in every 690 in 1897-98, but the average amount paid by each individual assessed was again Rs. 30 as in the preceding period. Appeals against assessments fell from 2,928 to 2,370, and there were only 591 cases of modified assessments as against 677 previously. There was an improvement in the care with which the initial assessments were made and the levying of the tax appears to have been carried out with less trouble than in the preceding year. Sixty persons were arrested to enforce payment of the tax, but it was necessary to send only four to prison. Movable property was attached in 290 cases, a decrease from the previous figure of 375, and in but 85 cases was such property sold, as against 113. The cases in which penalties were inflicted rose from 61 to 230 and the amount from Rs. 1,166 to Rs. 2,167, some trouble having been caused in Dehra Dun by individuals refusing to pay up, consequent on the discovery of embezzlements by an income-tax clerk. At the end of the year there was a sum of Rs. 12,802 outstanding as against Rs. 13,607, and the reduction in this direction indicates the generally improved and satisfactory working of the year's operations under the Act.

H. M. S. SPHINX, Commander H. A. Phillipps sailed yesterday evening for Muscat.

THE Byculla Club Ball is fixed for Wednesday, the 21st February.

THE Indian shipments of tea to Great Britain in October, compared with those of last year, have increased by 200,000 lbs; to America the increase is nearly 1,000,000 lbs.; and there is also an increase to Australasia.

MR. DANCE, Collector of Malabar, has drafted a simple, workable Bill for dealing with melcharts on second mortgages in Malabar, which have long been fruitful of agrarian discontent in that portion of the West Coast. Mr. Dance has called a meeting of the Malabar landlords to discuss the measure before submitting the draft Bill to Government, to be laid before the Legislative Council.

AN important measure which is likely to come before the Imperial Legislative Council in the approaching session is the Mines Bill. This was introduced last cold weather and has since been circulated for opinion to those concerned. It deals with the regulation of labour for Indian mines, especially coal mines. Like the Assam Emigration Bill which is also likely to be passed this winter it is largly the outcome of the investigations with which the names of Messrs H. C. Williams and J. Grundy are associated.

GOOD progress is being made with the construction of the large hydraulic dredger which is being built at home by Messrs. Armstrong to the order of the Calcutta Port Commissioners, and this huge piece of modern machinery—a veritable floating factory in itself—is to steam out to the Hoogly next. The result of the recent visit to Europe of Mr. Apjohn, vice chairman of the Calcutta Port Commissioners, has been to confirm Mr. Lindon Bate's report on the possibility of improving the waterway of the Calcutta port. The new hydraulic dredger, however, will at first be used only for dock extension. Meanwhile an interesting series of experiments have been sanctioned, to ascertain what would be the actual effect in practice of the various proposals made to this end. For this purpose three channels in miniature with all the shoals of the river represented, are to be built at the Calcutta Post Office, one to show the river as it is, the second as it would be if the proposals made by Mr. Lindon Bates were carried out, and the third with Mr. Vernon Harcourt's suggestions incorporated. These channels will then be operated upon by currents of water, the flow being so regulated by clockwork as to produce the effect of succeeding tides. In this way it is expected to be able to ascertain the nature of the changes in the lie of the silt that would be brought about in each case, and hence the relative merits of the schemes.

WITH the appointment of Sir Harnam Singh to succeed Pundit Suraj Kaul, as the representative of the Punjab, the constitution of the Imperial Council for the cold weather season has become almost complete. The only important exception is in the case of the Central Provinces, now represented by the Hon. Mr. Chitnavis, whose tenure is about to expire, but whose successor is not yet appointed. The European non-official members comprise Hon. Mr Spence for Bombay, the Hon. Mr. Smeaton for Burma, the Hon. Mr. Rees for Madras, the Hon. Mr. Evans for the N. W. Provinces, the Hon. Mr. Buckingham for Assam, the Hon. Mr. Toynbee for Bengal, besides the Hon. Messrs. Wood-Offe and Allan Arthur, representing respectively the Bengal Chambers of Commerce and the Bar. The remaining additional members are, the Maharajah of Darbhanga, the Nawab of Dacca, the Hon. Mr. Ananda Charlu, Sir Harnam Singh, the Hon. Mr. Mehta, and the Nawab Faizaz Ali Khan.

MR. C. H. A. HILL, First Assistant to the Resident of Hyderabad, has been selected as Private Secretary to Sir Stafford Northcote, the new Governor of Bombay.

THE proposal to hold the annual Civil Service Dinner at Lucknow next month, about the time of the Viceregal Durbar, has fallen through, not having met with sufficient support from the members of the Service generally. The dinner will therefore take place as usual on the night before the race for the Civil Service Cup.

CAPTAIN E LE MESURIER, who has been officiating as Political Agent in Sikhim during Mr. White's absence on leave, has, on the latter's return, reverted to his former employment in Rajputana, and left Darjeeling on Sunday.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. J. F. MICHELL took over the command of the Allahabad District on Monday on return from leave out of India. Brigadier-General Henry leaves for Rawalpindi in a few days to take up his appointment of Colonel on the Staff.

MR. Goschen, First Lord of the Admiralty, together with Admiral Lord Walter Kerr and other Admiralty officials, visited Sheerness on Nov. 3 and reviewed 1,000 bluejackets under training at the Sheerness School of Gunnery. Their lordships also visited the site of the proposed naval hospital and inspected four sloops and two cruisers preparing for commission. The Admiralty Lords left Sheerness the same afternoon for Chatham.

IT will be highly interesting to learn what Mr. Conventry makes out of the woad that he has laid down at Dungal Serai. The cultivation of this plant around the north-east frontier, taken all together, covers a considerable area, and there is no gainsaying the fastness of the colour, as is proved by the *keishes* of the hill men and striped *putrinjees* of Sylhet and Manipur. The process of extracting the dye is much simpler than the present one of dealing with indigo, so that there is a probability of woad underselling the Badische anilin compound; jhuming needs not be carried out with the same elaboration as clearances for tea, and although, no doubt, cultivation combined with manuring may increase the yield of the dye, it could hardly add to its lustre. It would be a strange revolution indeed were the manufacture of blue dyes transferred to the tea districts. There is another colouring matter in universal use in Manipur of a dull emerald green, with which the embroidered body cloths of the women are treated, but beyond knowing that it is a vegetable product, we are just now unable to give further information upon the matter; the various tinted pink dhoties affected by the well-to-do Manipuris all depend upon lac dye varying in intensity according to the fancy of the wearer. The brilliant scarlet striped *erias* of the Khasias are also due to lac.

In their monthly report on the resin market, Messrs Chiesman and Co., of London and Liverpool, state that "pales" have maintained a firm position. The proportion of this classification in the general receipts is so small that practically no offers for shipment from the other side of the Atlantic are being made, and a further advance of price is predicted. Medium grades are also said to be firm, the demand being quite equal to the supply. Common grades are unchanged, with little business. There has been a small demand for pale grades in London during the past month, but supplies have been so limited that high prices have had to be paid for actual business. Common and medium grades have been neglected, but prices have not been quotably changed. In Liverpool the quotations for low grades show a decided advance, but they are not regarded as reliable, sellers in many instances having accepted much lower figures. Stocks on the spot are relatively large, and considerable additional supply is on the way. It is stated that it will take a long time for the market to recover from the depression due to these facts. Pales, on the other hand, are exceedingly firm in Liverpool, and much higher prices in this case are looked forward to.

THREE companies of the Royal Munster Fusiliers *en route* from Lebong to Dinapore, will be halted at Dum Dum (2 companies) and Barrackpore (1 company), pending the arrival of the Duke of Cornwal's Light Infantry from the Barkacha camp.

A TELEGRAM from the Governor of Mauritius, Sir Charles Bruce, to Mr. Chamberlain was received at the Colonial Office on Friday, stating that for the week ending October 26, eighty-nine fresh cases of plague, fifty-seven of which were fatal, occurred. The total number of deaths from plague is now seventy-two.

THEY have a wholesale way of committing murder down in Kentucky. Two well-known families there having a blood feud on hand, the whole country has taken sides with one or the other. In four days five people were killed and many others wounded, the courts are terrorised, and the militia called out; but nothing can stop it, and apparently the shooting still goes merrily on. The amenities of life in Corsica or even in Tirah are nothing to this, and it must be a decidedly exciting experience to live "way down in Kentucky."

ST. PETERSBURG, November 1.—The "Novesti" states that M. de Witte, the Minister of Finance, on Oct. 31st, assembled around him the directors of several private credit institutions, and addressed them upon Russia's financial situation, which he declared to be a brilliant one at the present moment. The position of Russian finance, he said, gave rise to no anxiety, and even exceeded in solidity that of other States such as France, Great Britain, &c. The dearth of money was a result of the world's general financial position, and in the matter of discount rates re-acted upon the economic situation indirectly only. It afforded no ground for uneasiness.

THE suggestion of Lord Wemyss that foreign hostility to-day should be answered by the formation of a Volunteer Reserve, just as it was answered forty years ago by the enrolment of the Volunteers, is worth careful consideration. If, in addition to the many forces which can now be called upon, our friends beyond the English seas could realise that half a million trained men were also ready to obey a call to arms, there would probably not be that anxiety to confine British possibilities to merely naval strength which has been somewhat too apparent of late in certain quarters. Our real resources in the matter of military reserves may be measured by our success in colonisation. The same adaptability to fresh environments, the same steady increase in the population, the same vigorous patriotism, will produce the one as it has already produced the other; and if the necessity of conscription is still further postponed by any such moment as that advocated by Lord Wemyss, he will have done something to deserve our gratitude, not merely in the immediate present, but for many years to come.

TELEGRAMS.

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

GENERAL GATACRE'S ADDRESS TO HIS TROOPS.

AMPLE REINFORCEMENTS EXPECTED.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, Nov. 21, 6-35 P.M.

On Sunday last General Gatacre addressed the troops at Queenstown. He discouraged the habit of officers wearing conspicuous badges in action. He said he intended thoroughly studying the comfort of his men. He also told them that he expects ample reinforcements from home to cope with the enemy in South Africa.

[REUTER'S] TELEGRAMS.]

THE FORCE NOW IN NATAL.

LONDON, Nov. 22,

General Hildyard's and General Barton's entire brigades are now in Natal, where the total British force approximately amounts to 24,000 men including about 9,500 shut up in Ladysmith.

THE TELEGRAPH CUT.

Telegraphic communication with Estcourt has now been cut.

A WARNING TO WAVERERS.

General Clery and General Gatacre have issued notices warning wavereis against the consequences of disloyalty to the Crown.

BOER ADMINISTRATION.

The Boers have formally established their administration in all the towns they have occupied.

PREPARING FOR METHUEN'S COLUMN.

The Boers have planted cannon at the Belmont station and occupy strong positions in the adjacent hills.

REOCCUPATION OF NAAUPOORT.

The British reoccupied Naaupoort on the 19th inst.

THE CAPE REVENUES.

The Cape and Natal revenues are suffering seriously owing to the war and especially in the railway receipts.

BOERS AT KIMBERLEY REINFORCED.

The Free State Boers, who are besieging Kimberley, have been reinforced by a Transvaal commando.

THE SIEGE OF MAFEKING.

The Boer trenches are daily getting closer to Mafeking.

THE NEW SOUTH AFRICAN HORSE.

The first detachment, numbering 450 men of the newly-created South African Horse, has gone to the front from Capetown under Captain Fraser.

They have been splendidly drilled by Captain Villiers and are largely composed of Uitlanders.

ADVANCE OF METHUEN'S DIVISON.

The "Globe" states that Lord Methuen's division has commenced to advance on Kimberley and reached Witteputs yesterday.

MOVEMENTS OF TRANSPORTS.

The Kildonan Castle with the Northumberland and Welsh Regiment and numerous details has arrived at Capetown.

The Nubia with the 1st Battalion, Scots Guards has gone to Durban.

THE DEFENCES OF PORTSMOUTH.

The defences of Portsmouth are being overhauled and modernised.

ARRIVAL OF THE NEW ZEALAND CONTINGENT.

The tranaport Wajwera with the New Zealand contingeat has arrived at Algoa Bay.

GRAVE NEWS.

THE DUTCH JOIN THE BOERS.

Conflicting accounts are arriving from the North of Cape Colony, but it is tolerably certain that a considerable number of Dutch colonists have joined the enemy.

THE BOERS COMMAND EST COURT.

A large force of Boers control the railway between Estcourt and Mooi River Station and are encamped near Mitcheson's Cutting.

There has been no communication with Estcourt since yesterday noon.

THE KILDONAN CASTLE'S CARGO.

The Kildonan Castle took the pontoon and balloon detachments and large quantities of ammunition.

LADYSMITH STILL SAFE.

LONDON, Nov. 21.

Ladysmith was all safe yesterday.

CAPE SYMPATHY WITH THE BOERS.

Two members of the Cape Assembly for Colesberg have joined the Boers.

A GENEROUS GIFT.

The Duke of Portland has given £10,000 to the Red Cross Society for ambulance work in South Africa.

SCURVY AMONGST PRISONERS IN PRETORIA.

IAN HAMILTON RECOMMENDED FOR THE VICTORIA CROSS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, Nov. 22.

The "Indian Daily News" in a cablegram dated London 20th, says :—

In the main attack of the Boers on Ladysmith, on the 9th, the King's Royal Rifles defended the position and repulsed the enemy twice. The "Natal Times" states that Ladysmith can hold out for months.

The Boers are suffering greatly from dysentery, and lack of commissariat is greatly disheartening them. It is stated that scurvy has broken out amongst the British prisoners at Pretoria.

Mr. Winston Churchill, in his gallant charge at Chieveley, was wounded in the hand.

Colonel Ian Hamilton has been recommended for the Victoria Cross for Elandslaagte.

ADDITIONAL INDIAN TROOPS FOR SOUTH AFRICA.

It is stated that the details which are about to embark for South Africa to join their respective regiments will comprise 77 men of the 2nd King's Royal Rifles, in Calcutta, under Lieutenant Widdrington ; also 56 men of the 1st Gloucesters from Allahabad, embarking at Calcutta ; while 72 men of the 5th Dragoons, from Sialkot, under Captain Stuart ; 24 men of the 9th Lancers from Muttra, under Captain Stanley; 69 men of the 19th Hussars from Secunderabad; 115 men, 1st Devonshires, from Jullundur ; 123 men, 2nd Gordon Highlanders, from Umballa; 6 men of the 21st Battery, Secunderabad ; 12 men of the 42nd Battery, Kirkee ; and 11 men of the 53rd Battery, Ahmedabad, will embark mostly from Bombay

The Senior Officer, Captain Stanley, will be in command during the voyage, and the Indian Marine authorities are arranging the necessary transport.

In reference to the above telegram we learn on enquiry in Bombay that the Indian Marine authorities have received a warning message to hold themselves in readiness for the transport of the troops. No definite arrangements have, however, yet been made, and it is uncertain whether all the men will go from Calcutta or Bombay. Only one ship will be required, as altogether the men number only about 600, and consist chiefly of details previously debarred from sailing with their respective regiments on medical grounds.

TRANSVAAL WAR FUND IN CALCUTTA.

The Transvaal War Fund in Calcutta now amounts to close upon Rs. 43,000, the Bengal Zemindars being amongst those coming forward to support it.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

TENDERS FOR INDIA BILLS.

LONDON, Nov. 22.

The Secretary of State for India invites tenders up to the 27th inst. for one million sterling of six and twelve months' bills to replace those payable on the 2nd December.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE'S PRIVATE SECRETARY.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SECUNDERABAD, Nov. 22,

Mr. Hill, First Assistant Resident, who returned by the last mail, was, before leaving England, selected by Sir Stafford Northcote as Private Secretary. Mr. Hill is a most popular member in Poona and Hyderabad society, and a keen sportsman, owning a considerable racing stud.

LORD SANDHURST IN SIND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

HYDERABAD (Sind), Nov. 22.

H. E. Lord Sandhurst and Staff arrived at Kotri, this morning, and crossed to Hyderabad over the Indus Bridge on trollies. He received addresses from the Municipality of Hyderabad, and distributed plague-certificates in the afternoon. In replying to the address his Excellency said he would mention one important point in connection with the scheme for the water-supply, and that was that there must be a drainage system, also the land should not become water-logged and unhealthy. Speaking of dacoities in Sind His Excellency referred to the courageous conduct of a money-lender pursued in the Hala taluka, who cleverly outwitted the dacoits. He plague His Excellency said he was glad to observe the absence of friction between the authorities and the inhabitants, which was due to the good work done by the plague volunteers in explaining and removing wrong impressions.

MAHARAJA OF DHARBHANGA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, Nov. 22.

The Maharaja of Dharbhanga's intended pilgrimage, with 15,000 followers, to Gaya is postponed until February owing to the plague in the Chapra District.

TREASURY ITEM.

The gold in the Paper Currency Department on the 15th amounted to Rs. 5,56,00,000.

SERVICE NOTES.

Mr. Kirk, Chief Superintendent of Telegraphs, has three months' leave.

Colonel Purdy, Comdg, Royal Arrillery, Jhansi, is likely be appointed Colonel on the Staff, Rayal Artillery, Punjab Command, vice Brig.-General Curtis.

Lieut. Stoddart, Wiltshires, has been ordered to Wei-hai-wei to join the Chinese Regiment.

POONA HOCKEY TOURNAMENT.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

POONA, Nov. 22.

The finals of the Hockey Tournament between the 14th Bombay Infantry and the Shropshire Light Infantry was played this afternoon on the Gymkhana ground. Both regiments were strongly represented. The 14th played a very good combined game, and the Shropshires also played capitally, and might have changed the aspect of affairs had their shooting been a little straighter. The 14th Bombay Infantry won the tournament by three goals to nil. At the close of the game Mr. Tom Le Mesurier presented the cup to Mr. Sargent, the captain of the winning team. Before doing so he spoke a few words, and said that, as the president of the Gymkhana had asked him to present the cup to the winners, he had great pleasure in doing so. He had watched all the games and must congratulate he winners, as well as the losers, on the exceeding good feeling which was shown throughout. That goes far towards the success of any game, and he trusted that by next year a handsome cup would be presented.

The cup was then handed to the winning team, cheers were given, and the tournament ended.

PLAGUE IN POONA.

THE CITY CONTINUING FREE.

Poona is free of plague to-day ; there were 40 cases and 25 deaths in the district.

THE landing-stage of the Waesland Railway ferry-boat, on the left bank of the Scheldt, broke in two on Nov. 3rd, on the arrival of the first train from Waesland. It was crowded with people at the time, and a large number of persons were thrown into the water. Many were rescued, but about fifteen or twenty were drowned. Ten bodies have been recovered.

A BABY, while sleeping in its cradle in the village of Ilouse, near Nice, was pounced upon by an eagle and carried off. It is impossible to discover any trace of the child.

A GREAT sensation has been caused in Valparaiso by a rumour that the death which occurred last week of Senor Ramon Garcia, Director-General of Railways, and Senor Gregorio Pinochet, Minister of Public Works, was attended with mysterious circumstances. In both cases a medical certificate was given to the effect that death was due to pneumonia, but it is reported that a duel with swords was fought in a house in Santiago between the Minister and the Railway Director, and that both of them succumbed to their wounds. It is further alleged that the duel was a most barbarous affair, neither of the principals having any knowledge of fencing.

FAMINE IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

THE general committee of the Bombay Presidency Famine Relief Fund met yesterday afternoon, in the Municipal Council Hall, for the purpose of adopting measures to carry out the resolutions passed at the public meeting held at the Town Hall last week.

On the motion of Sir Jamsetji Jijibhoy, Bart., seconded by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Russell, Sir Lawrence Jenkins, Kt., Chief Justice, was voted to the chair.

The Lord Bishop of Bombay moved the first resolution for the appointment of an executive committee for the purpose of raising and administering the Bombay Presidency Famine Relief Fund with power to do all such things as might be necessary for carrying out such work.

Mr. Ibrahim Rahimtoola having seconded the resolution, it was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Dr. Bhalchandra Krishna proposed, and the Hon'ble Mr. Burke seconded, and it was carried, that the account of the Fund be opened in the Bank of Bombay.

It was resolved on the motion of the Hon'ble Mr. Chandawarkar, seconded by Mr. J. Sanders-Slater, that the executive committee should from time to time place before the public and the general committee an account of the receipts and disbursements of the Fund.

On the motion of the Hon'ble Mr. Fazulbhoy Visram, seconded by the Hon'ble Mr. P. M. Mehta, a vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman for presiding at the meeting.

FAMINE RELIEF IN BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

THE Government have issued the following memorandum :—

There was no rain in any district of the Presidency during the week ending 11th instant. A good fall is urgently wanted throughout the Deccan and Karnatak to save the rabi crops already sown and for further sowings. The prices of the staple food grains have generally risen except in Surat, Kaira, Broach, the Panch Mahals, Kolaba and Ratnagiri, where they are stationary or have slightly fallen. The district reports on the situation are summarised below.

The following statement shows the progress of relief measures during the week ending 11th instant. The total numbers on relief under each class are compared below with those of the preceding week :—Previous week—Workers 127,303 ; dependents, 24,877 ; gratuitously relieved in villages and poor-houses, 4,383. Week under report—Workers, 137,038 ; dependents, 32,519 ; gratuitously relieved, in villages and poor-houses, 6,497. Two new relief works, viz., the Amod Tank, in Broach, and metal-breaking on the Jalgaon-Dharamgaon road, in Khandesh, were started during the week under report. In view of the increasing gravity of the situation in the Sholapur District preparations are being made to undertake for purposes of relief, besides other large works, the earth-work of the projected Barsi Road-Tadvalla Extension of the Barsi Light Railway. Authority has been given to open the Saetphal Tank, in the Poona District, as a test work.

The following allotments have been sanctioned :—Rs. 10,000 for gratuitous relief in Poona ; Rs. 10,000 for gratuitous relief in Khandesh ; Rs. 10,000 for kitchens on large relief works in Sholapur ; Rs. 5,000 for doles to inferior village servants in Sholapuri ; Rs. 4,000 for improvement of the water-supply in Sholapur. Mr. Sadashiv Venkatesh Jog, member of the District Local Board, Ahmednagar, has made a donation of Rs. 10,000 for charitable relief of distress in that district. The cordial thanks of Government have been conveyed to Mr. Jog for his munificent donation and for the excellent example he has so worthily set.

THANA NEWS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

THANA, Nov. 21.

MR. CHARLES R. MACNAMARA, Assistant to the Collector of Salt Revenue, at Bhendy Bunder in Thana, has passed an examination in Marathi, according to the Lower Standard, on the 6th ultimo. He has already passed in Gujrati, according to the Higher Standard.

It is stated that all men of the Parbhoo community of Thana will hold prayer meeting in the Temple of Shri Coupineshvar Mahadeo, shortly, for the success of British arms in the Transvaal War, now being waged in South Africa.

It is under contemplation to appoint several pensioned Native Officers of Government, Civil Department, who are suitable for the posts of Honorary Magistrates, in order to lighten the judicial work of the Revenue officers in the Thana District, at the present juncture of famine, plague, and drought.

Through the exertions of Rao Saheb Mookoondrao Anant Ovalekar, Chairman of the Thana Municipality, it has been settled to connect the Municipal Reservoir pipe with that of Tansa Main at Vaiganeshvar, instead of Kapur-Bow (the latter is at a distance of about two and a half miles from the town of Thana) and to supply the residents of Thana with Tansa water from December next.

At the instance of Inspector Govind Daji, of the Thana Municipality, Ganpat Ramset Anjurkar, Sonar, and Shet Gangadas Jamnadas, a Vania merchant of Thana, were tried by Mr. A. G. Kotwal, City Magistrate, for failing to pay to Municipality their house-tax for 1898-99, and fined Rs. 2 each, in addition to the house-tax on Thursday last.

Plague has made its appearance again at Coorla, in the Thana District. There were seven attacks and nine deaths from plague in the village of Coorla during the past week. Dead rats have lately been discovered in several houses at Kalyan, in this district. The inmates of such houses have left their places and gone to reside somewhere else.

Visram, son of Mr. Janoba, a pensioned Subedar belonging to H. M.'s 6th Regiment, Bo. N. I., died of plague in the Quarantine Camp, on Sunday last, near the tent of Mr. Samuel Issack Javalekar, pensioned Subedar Major and Sirdar Bahadur belonging to H. M's. 3rd. Regiment Bo. N. L. I. (the latter officer also lost one of his young sons, named Hannock, by plague a week ago in the Timbi Street) and close to the St. James' Church in Thana.—The weather was very dewy here on Wednesday until 9 o'clock in the morning. The thermometer readings ranged from 69 to 88 degrees in the shade at Thana. yesterday.

ARRIVAL OF INDIAN REFUGEES.

THE steamer Umana, (Captain M. de Gruyter) which arrived in harbour on Tuesday night, brought a further batch of Indian refugees from Natal. The Umena left Natal on the 2nd instant and proceeded to Colombo, thence she has come here with 684 refugees, comprising 673 males, 3 females, 4 boys, 2 girls and 2 infants, and G. H. Taylor and Mrs. Lash as cabin passengers. The natives all landed yesterday morning and went to the native town ; they paid their own passage.

ARRIVAL OF A PORTUGUESE GUNBOAT.

THE Portuguese Gunboat, Bengo, Commander C. de N. Guerreira, arrived in harbour yesterday morning from Goa, which port she left on the 20th instant, with Messrs. D. C. Oliveira and C. de L. Ferreira as passengers on board. She has come here to be docked for repairs, and will remain in Bombay for about a fortnight.

ROYAL BOMBAY YACHT CLUB.

SAILING races to be held in the afternoon of Saturday next, 25th inst.

Handicap races for ship's boats (any rig) to start at 3-15. Course No. 6 reversed.

Handicap race for Jackets on the Club list to sail over the same course as above at 3-30.

Race for boats of the 'Tomtit' class to start at 3-45. Course No. 13 reversed (3 times round).

Entries for all the above races close at noon on Friday as usual.

THE Central News learns that, according to the latest mail dispatches from Mombasa, the ravages of famine in the Giriyana country have been swiftly followed by a huge and widespread epidemic of smallpox and dysentery: and authentic reports, which have reached Mombasa from the interior, state that the natives were dying in thousands. Happily there has been a great improvement in the country along the coast. Here the famine has abated, some rain has fallen, there is some supply of food, and the crisis is practically over. But in the interior, famine and disease are dealing wholesale death. The supplies of food and nourishment given out to starving natives are alleviating some of the suffering, but are entirely inadequate. Those in charge of the chief stations of the Church Missionary Society are distributing food as far as possible, but can only touch the fringe of the trouble.

THE VICEROY'S TOUR.

CENTRAL PROVINCES FAMINE WORKS.

NAGPUR, 19TH NOVEMBER.

THE Viceroy and Mr. Ibbetson this morning visited a piece of land on which it is proposed to build new mills. They afterwards visited the Empress Mills, the Viceroy showing much interest in the different operations. Four thousand hands are employed at these mills, and all showed much delight at the Viceroy's visit. Lord Curzon and party attended church in the afternoon. His Excellency leaves for Raipur after dinner.

RAIPUR, 20th November.

His Excellency the Viceroy and party, including Mr. Ibbetson and Mr. Fraser, arrived at Raipur at 8 a.m., and were met by Mr. Younghusband, Commissioner, and the other civil and military officials. They drove to the house of the Commissioner, where the Viceroy and his party are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Younghusband. A guard was supplied by the 13th Madras Infantry. The Viceroy and party subsequently drove 14 miles to visit famine relief works, where six thousand hands are employed, breaking stones, etc., along the main road. These works are under the Public Works Department. The Viceroy inspected minutely all the details of the work and saw the children being fed, etc. The people are in good condition and not emaciated. His Excellency lunched near the works with Captain Macnab, Deputy Commissioner, and after lunch drove down the road where, at different points, all the villagers were collected. Those villagers incapable of doing work receive a dole from Government of about Rs. 2-8 monthly, termed village relief. It is mostly women with small children, imbeciles, blind, etc., who receive these doles. The Viceroy also inspected the village work under the charge of Mr. Glass, a German missionary. He interviewed the *malguzars*, or those natives who derive their income from villages, and impressed upon them their duty to remain with their villages and to help the people in time of distress. The Commissioner entertains all local officials to-night. The Viceroy leaves for Jubbulpore early to-morrow.—*Pioneer.*

BOMBAY PORT TRUST.

A MEETING of the Trustees of the Port of Bombay was held on the 14th November :—

A Government Resolution, Marine Department, was read stating that His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to appoint Mr. R. M. Kennedy, I. C. S., to be a member of the Board of Trustees, vice Mr. B. A. Brendon, I. C. S., resigned, and Mr. Kennedy was appointed a member of the Land and Railways and Bunders Committees.

A letter was read from the Engineer, dated 7th November, forwarding a plan and specification for a small building to be erected in the compound of the Watson's Hotel annexe on Apollo Reclamation, submitted for approval by Mr. R. Willis, Agent to the surviving executor of the late Sirdar Diler Jung, saying that the building which is of one storey only is to be used as a bakery, the chimney of which is to be carried above the top of the adjacent building, and that there appears to be no objection to the plans being approved, provided a 2' gully be left between the building and the north boundary wall and all Municipal requirements be fulfilled.

The plan and specification were approved, subject to all Municipal requirements being complied with, and to the condition that should it be necessary to raise the chimney hereafter it shall be done.

THE SUPPLY OF TENDER.

A letter was read from the Engineer, dated 8th November, 1892, forwarding tenders for the supply of timber and iron for the year 1900, *viz.*,

For Timber—Messrs. Muncherji Dorabji and Co., Rs. 46,377-8-0 ; Mr. Mahomedally Ameer Saheb, Rs. 47,192-8-0 ; Messrs. Alex. Mackenzie and Sons, Rs. 47,304-12-0 ; Messrs. Sorabjee Hormusjee and Co., Rs. 49,011-4-3.

For Iron—Messrs. Moolji Haridas and Co., Rs. 34,547-0-0, saying as regards the tenders for timber, that the lowest tender is that of Messrs. Muncherjee Dorabji and Co., which is Rs. 815 lower than that of Mr. Mahomedally Ameer Saheb the next lowest, and Rs. 5,142-8-0 lower than the market rates, which were unusually high at the time of advertising, owing to the great demand for timber on account of the Transvaal expedition ; that in the first six items which practically comprise the whole contract Messrs. A. Mackenzie and Sons, are lowest in three, Messrs. Muncherji Dorabji and Co., in two, including the principal one, and Mr. Mahomedally Ameer Saheb in one, the smallest ; that the following are the totals taking the lowest items from each tender :—Messrs. Muncherji Dorabji & Co., Rs. 32 210-0 ; Messrs. Alex. Mackenzie & Sons Rs. 11,469-12 ; Mr. Mahomedally Ameer Saheb, Rs. 1,625-0, Total Rs. 45,304-12 ; which is Rs. 1,072-12-0 less than the total amount of Messrs. Muncherji Dorabji & Co.'s tender ; that all three of the tenderers have satisfactorily carried out this contract in former years, and suggesting that the contract be divided between Messrs. Muncherji Dorabji & Co., and Messrs. A. Mackenzie & Sons ; and that as regards iron, the tender of Messrs. Moolji Haridas & Co., is Rs. 1,007-8-0 less than the current market rates, but Rs. 7,203-4-0 above the contract for 1899, observing that there has been an almost unprecedented rise in the price of iron and steel during the past twelve months, and that uncertainty as to future prices has doubtless prevented other firms tendering, adding that he is informed that it is not considered that the maximum has yet been reached, and that prices will probably remain high during the next year, and recommending under the circumstances, that the tender of Messrs. Moolji Harridas & Co., who have in the present and former years successfully carried out this contract, be accepted.

Resolution.—Of the tenders for timber that of Messrs. Muncherji Dorabji and Co. is accepted for the supply of Moulmein teak, Pine, and Ceiling boards, while for the remaining items, that of Messrs. Alex. Mackenzie and Sons is accepted. The tender of Messrs. Moolji Harridas and Co., is accepted for the supply of iron.

THE OCTOBER RECEIPTS.

A note was read by the Chairman, dated 9th November, saying that it is satisfactory to note that in October last the actual receipts exceeded those of the same month of the previous year by Rs. 58,305, so that the revenue in this, as compared with the seven months of the previous year (the record year of revenue of the Trust), has been exceeded by Rs. 8,550, that the larger revenue in October, 1899, is due principally to the bills for the late expedition to South Africa having been in great part recovered, and observing that the expenditure during the half-year has exceeded that of the corresponding previous half-year by Rs. 22,360, which is more than accounted for by the increased amount paid on Municipal taxes and expenses of floating the new loan, the excess on the two items alone having amounted to Rs. 77,400.

PILOTAGE STATEMENT.

	For week ending 10th Nov. 1899.	Total from 1st April to 10th Nov. 1899.	For week ending 10th Nov. 1898.	Total from 1st April to 10th Nov. 1898.
Vessels piloted into harbour	22	583	21	608
Do. do. out of do.	19	596	18	612
Do. transported	14	405	8	445
Do. attended to	...	34	1	54
Do. warped	1	39	...	42

PRESIDENCY PLAGUE RETURNS.

THE cases of plague and deaths therefrom reported to Government during the week ending 17th November were as follows :—

Cities.	Cases.	Deaths.
Bombay	145	95
Karachi	7	6
Poona (including Cantonment)	4	5
Districts.		
Ahmedabad	4	3
Kaira	2	2
Surat	49	31
Thana	23	22
Nasik	10	48
Poona (excluding City)	247	191
Satara	245	206
Sholapur	131	108
Ahmednagar	88	70
Kolaba	6	3
Ratnagiri	10	8
Belgaum	420	316
Dharwar	455	358
Bijapur	201	141
Kanara	9	5
Karachi (excluding City)	11	6
Hyderabad (Sind)	24	21
Political Agencies.		
Kolhapur	668	525
Cutch	2	1
Akalkot	7	4
Aundh	5	8
Bhor	16	10
Savanur	6	3
Total	2,844	2,199
Week ending Nov. 10	3,459	2,686
Total to date	354,387	277,961

Panch Mahals, Broach, Khandesh, Shikarpur, Upper Sind frontier, Thar and Parkar, Kathiawar, Mahi Kantha, Rewa Kantha, Palanpur, Savantvadi, Baroda territory, Dharampur, Sachin, and Janjira, have been declared free during the week.

ART, MUSIC AND DRAMA.

THE PICTURE GALLERIES.

CONCERTS AND OPERA.

NEW PLAYS IN TOWN.

LONDON, Nov. 3.

FORTUNATELY for modern French art the display of it at the Grafton Galleries can in no sense be called a representative one. There are a few famous names in the catalogue, notably the name of M. Puirs de Chavannes. But he is scarcely seen at his best in his decoration for the Boston Library, "The Muses acclaiming the Genius of Light ;" nor perhaps is the hanging of this large design which fills the ambo at the end of the Music Room, and overlaps at each side on the flanking walls one which shows the painter's work to advantage. The coloration in pale tints of fawn and grey is simple and harmonious, and there is a certain austerity about the whole scheme very characteristic of the French master. The other works in this room are mostly landscapes, hung with wide spaces between, and a couple of portraits by Gandara. One of these, the Duchess of Mecklenburg, is painted with great elegance and finesse—the lace is touched with the utmost lightness, the face is a society face, the expression supercilious. In the other, the large white hat, turned up at the side, the plumes of white feathers, the gauzy dress, lying light on the figure, were all opportunities which the painter knew how to turn to account, and were in fact more in sympathy with his art than the face itself, which is hard, uninterested and uninteresting. Modern French art has one great distinction, initiated, or at least pushed far by Bastien Lepage, that it seeks to paint figure in open air, giving full value to the landscape. M. Cottet's "Beau Soir de Bretagne,' No. 6, with its figures of mother and child, seen against a sunlit background, the light falling on the old woman's cap, and outlining it, is, perhaps, more Dutch than French in its colour scheme, though the old woman's face is of the true Breton type. It is a sharp transition to pass from this quaint but realistic piece to M. Gaston La Touche's "Les Reliques," with its wonderful melange of colour, greens, purples, blues, with its blottesque effect, verging to sloppiness, and its mixed illumination—the candle-light on the kneeling figures of the priests and the sunlight forcing its way through the stained glass windows overhead—cunningly conducted. With a few broad touches M. Marcette, in "La Rafale,' No. 23, has given us the effect of sun, wind, and rain, all streaming over his stretch of level marsh land, while the vapour-laden clouds seem to scud across the picture. Very true to nature and very delicately painted is a still evening scene, with its mystery of moonlight refining the landscape, which M. E. Bourdelles styles "Tendresse des Champs." M. Thaulow is no stranger to our London galleries. His work is always effective, and generally almost arresting. His view of Dieppe, with the tide low is interesting as showing more subtlety and less force than we are accustomed to find in his work. The effect is of twilight, daylight almost gone, and the warmer lamplight shining from the houses and sea front, and reflected on the sombre level of the sea The long gallery is hung with a mixed assemblage of chalks, water-colours, and oils, of which the most telling are the series by Constantin Meunier, especially No. 72, a very strong effect of hurrying figures ; No. 77, a quay with boats drawn up ; and No. 78, prosaically treated, but painted with great force and emphasis. Here our brief notice ends, there are other pictures which might be mentioned ; still to put these works forward as illustrating "Modern French Art," except in a very perfunctory way, would be unfair to Art and scarcely desired by the painters themselves.

The exhibition of the Society of Oil Painters is very seldom a particularly interesting one, but the present collection of works in oil, gathered together at the Prince's Hall in Piccadilly, seems even to have subsided below a never very exalted level of achievement. Some work of interest there is to be found scattered here and there amidst half a thousand or so of paintings exhibited, but it is scarcely sufficiently in evidence to leaven perceptibly the contents of the galleries in the lump. One is conscious that the general desert is more arid and more extensive even than is usual, the occasional cases more limited in number and in extent. The perfunctory anecdotic picture, purely of studio origin, is a recurring factor upon the society's walls, and most even of the work from which one can extract some measure of satisfaction is but modest and unambitious in its aims. No. 23, "The Right of Way," by Mr. Cuthbert E. Swan, is an interesting piece of animal painting, representing a snarling leopard who meets not a lion but a python with levelled head in his path ; the forms of the leopard's body are very skilfully suggested under his fur. "The Circus," No. 54, by Mr. H. T. Jarman, is a clever sketch of one of those brightly coloured encampments to be encountered in rural districts, seen under a sky of rolling grey clouds ; and "The Garden of the Cardinal, No. 66, by Mr. John Fulleylove, introduces us to a stately pleasaunce with its terraces, statues, stone pines and ilexes, and is full of Italian local colouring. Somewhat mild, but still tender in colour and in feeling is No. 74, "Cupid and Psyche," by Baron Arild Rosenkrantz ; and in "Winter," No. 91, by Mr. Claude Hayes, the snow-covered wheels and the horses shaggy with the cold enhance the general effect of frost and bleak biting wind. Mr. E. Matthew Hale's three contributions all play variations on the theme of flesh tints contrasted with blue and white sea ; of these, "Bathers," No. 138, with its graceful wading figures, is the most important. An amusing piece of eccentricity, with a certain hard archaism in its execution, is Mr. Byam Shaw's picture, "A Protest," No. 162. The scene is laid in mamma's bed room, and mamma, still a pretty young woman, is adding, in the background at the mirror, a touch—a *soupcon* of additional colour to her cheeks ; in the foreground an intensely didactic, and Shakesperian withal, little girl of five is touching up, with a brush dipped in crimson paint, the roses in a bowl. "Waiting !" No. 204, by Sir James Linton, is one of the pleasantest and least conventional works that this artist has contributed for a long while to the Society ; but Mr. E. Reginald Frampton's "Annunciation," No. 214, is absurdly mannered without the excuse of originality. A small but very exquisite landscape is No. 261, "Springtime in Cornwall," by Mr. Alfred East, acutely observed, and delightfully delicate in colour. Another spring picture, No. 280, by Mr. A. S. Hartrick, of a hillside village, is full of observation, and gives one a sense everywhere of life and growth and movement. There is a Robert Louis Stevensonian hint in "The Smugglers' Cave," No. 311, by Mr. E. F. Brewtnall ; and Mr. St. George Hare's "Shine of Eros," No. 318, has decided decorative and pictorial qualities. A broadly treated and effective piece of work is No. 427, "The Madonna dell Salute, by Moonlight," by Mr. S. Melton Fisher ; the qualities of Italian moonlight, and the general aspect and atmosphere of the place are well rendered in this—There are a largeness and mystery about it which are decidedly effective. "Fire," by Mr. J. T. Nettleship, No. 444, is lurid in aspect but full of movement. The beasts are leaping away in panic from a forest fire ; in the foreground a lioness bears away a baby cub in her mouth.

The present exhibition, in its galleries in Suffolk-street, of the Royal Society of British Artists, contains, as usual, a considerable percentage of work that is anything but remarkable, but contains also several items of interest exhibiting the results of distinct and individual artistic impulse. No. 115, "Salambo : The Mystery of Tanit," by Mr. Leonard Watts, is the most remarkable work exhibited dealing with the imaginative side of things, the nude figure of the heroine standing upright tense in limb and face, and wound about by a huge serpent, is highly impressive, impressive also is the pale grey colour scheme, but perhaps the most remarkable thing about the picture is the force and finish of the drawing. Mr. Watts evidently bestows great attention upon this point ; he is not content merely to get things more or less into their right places, he strives to delineate them with precision and mastery, and, in this instance we think, with very great success. In "A Winter Evening," No. 58, Mr. F. Cayley Robinson shows himself less ambitious than heretofore of obtaining effects that lie outside the straight path of painting, and, in consequence, is more completely successful than usual ; there is much tenderness and poetic fancy in "A Winter Evening," but no deliberate allegory is obtruded upon the spectator. Three pensive girls are in a room lit partially by warm firelight and in part by the colder light from a window, but they are seen with poetic insight, and depicted in a style of considerable pictorial dignity. Amongst the works whose aim is more realistic, the most striking example is No. 213, "M. Bordenave," by Mr. J. W. T. Manuel (M. Bordenave, it will be remembered, was the Manager in the opening chapters of Zola's "Nana," who gave such a pithy definition of his theatre to La Faloise). Mr. Manuel has taken him as a type and has, with much insight and observation, realised and set him down with an almost Juvenalian ferocity of insistence upon all that is worst and most degraded in the personality indicated. The same artist shows himself in a more genial mood in two little sketches, "The Wedding Morn," No. 40, and "Breezy Morning," No. 47 ; the former is a little sketch of a beach all of whose boats are decorated with fluttering flags. Clever, actual, and modern, with a keen sense of the colour, vitality and pleasure that flavour the festivals of Nineteenth Century England are Mr. J. Sanderson Wells's sketches, "Coming Away from the Derby," No. 31 ; "Polo Match, Ranelagh," No. 120 ; and "Henley Regatta," No. 127.

"La Tulipe Noire" is one of the most pleasing of the romances of the elder Dumas, but it is equally true that it is one of the least dramatic. It deals, as is well known, with that extravagant cult of a beautiful flower which at one time raged in the Netherlands like an epidemic of madness ; but the difficulties in the way of transferring the story to the stage be not only in the subject, but in the treatment that it has received at the hands of the great novelist. The original Tulipomania had, no doubt, its romantic side, and even its tragic episodes ; for it was not a mere outbreak of horticultural enthusiasm as Dumas—probably because he has chosen for his story a later historical period—has preferred to depict it, though it had, it is true, its origin in that feeling. It was essentially a speculative mania, and every one knows that when the spirit of gambling is aroused in a nation the intrinsic value of the particular object of the speculative frenzy becomes a matter of minor importance. Dumas's personages, however, unlike the original tulipomaniacs, are all horticultural worshippers. They do not "die of a rose in aromatic pain ;" but they languish over tulip beds, and carry in their pockets private fetishes in the shape of little dusky bulbs, which they take forth from time to time and regard with a superstitious fondness. Obviously these are feelings that lie somewhat outside the dramatist's true domain. Unlike the simple primary passions, they require explanation, and can awaken the sympathy of the spectator only in proportion to his ability to conceive a state of things of which he has had no experience. These obstacles, however, only serve to make more conspicuous the brilliant success of "The Black Tulip" at the Haymarket Theatre on Saturday evening. Mr. Grundy has availed himself freely of the rich local colouring of the story ; he has also given to Tulipomania its due prominence ; but he has, at the same time, developed the rather slender element of romantic interest so adroitly, that amidst all the excitements of the historical setting the loves of that amiable horticulturist and successful producer of the black tulip, Dr. Cornelis van Baerle and Rosa, the beautiful daughter of Gryphus the jailor of Buytenhof furnish still the main thread of interest. Nobody was thrilled or startled on Saturday evening, and assuredly no one's sense of propriety was in the least degree offended ; for Mr. Grundy's piece is from first to last so pure and wholesome that we may confidently recommend it to the attention of the distinguished correspondents, clerical and lay, who discuss in the current number of "The Puritan" the question, "Ought Christians to go to th Theatre?" But if there were no strong excitements there was abundance of genuine pleasure. A prettier play indeed, or one that holds an easier command over the sympathy of an audience than "The Black Tulip" has not been seen on our stage for many a day, and it will certainly be a reproach to the playgoing public if it fails to take a place among the most successful ventures of the present management of the Haymarket.

The familiar story of the Black Tulip need not here be retold in detail. It mainly concerns, as we have already said, the love of Cornelis van Baerle and Rosa, the jailer's daughter. Cornelis, who is a rather simple-minded young gentleman, wholly absorbed in tulip worship, has just succeeded in producing that long coveted phenomenon, a black tulip, for which a reward of no less than one hundred thousand florins has been offered by the Horticultural Society of Haarlem, when he is cast into jail on a false charge of having conspired with his godfather De Witt against William of Orange, who has just been chosen Stadtholder. The chief charm of the play lies in the prison scenes, in which Cornelis is consoled for the harsh treatment he receives at the hands of the terrible jailer Gryphus by the tender sympathy of the jailer's beautiful daughter. Day by day she contrives to have interviews with the prisoner, chiefly through the little barred window of the door of his cell. Cornelis even teaches her to read and write, and growing confident of her love, confides to her one of the precious bulbs, which he has contrived to hide in his clothing, and Rosa plants and rears it in a flowerpot with loving care. Meanwhile, however, Cornelis's designing neighbour, Isaac Boxtel, has discovered his secret, and by making friends with Gryphus he contrives to steal the coveted flower. Still, Rosa plots and plans in her lover's interests, and bearing patiently the brutality of her odious father, who has now discovered the secret of her love, manages to secure the prison keys and set

MUNICIPAL STANDING COMMITTEE.

DR. N. N. KATRAK presided at the weekly meeting of the Standing Committee of the Municipal Corporation, held yesterday afternoon, in the Municipal Council Hall. There were also present:—Professor O. V. Muller, Messrs. T. W. Cuffe, Mulji B. Barbhaya, Fazulbhoy Visram, C. N. Wadia, Hartley Kennedy, K. N. Kabraji, Drs. Ismail Jan Mahomed, Bhalchandra Krishn, A. G. Viegas, Mr. W. L. Harvey, Municipal Commissioner, and Mr. M. N. Wadia, Municipal Secretary.

BUDGET ESTIMATES.

After disposing of the ordinary business, the Committee proceeded to consider the budget estimates for the year 1900-1901, the income side of the budget being taken up first.

The Committee, without discussion, passed the income side at Rs. 99,20,000, including the opening balance of Rs. 14,00,000.

MUNICIPAL MEDICAL EXAMINER.

Consideration of the expenditure side was then proceeded with.

While considering the estimate for the general office establishment, Dr. Viegas moved an amendment for the abolition of the post of Municipal Medical Examiner, which carried with it a monthly salary of Rs. 200. He said that since they had created posts of Divisional Health Officers, the duties of this officer ought to be entrusted to them.

Mr. C. N. Wadia seconded the amendment. He remarked that according to his information Government had no special medical officer for this purpose, but the work was done by certain medical officers in addition to their own duties.

Dr. Ismail Jan Mahomed was in favour of retaining the post, although he was of opinion that they should also have a board of municipal medical examiners.

Mr. Kabraji thought that as the Divisional Health Officers had certain duties allotted to them, it was not right that additional burden should be thrown on them.

The Commissioner remarked it was highly desirable that they should have a medical officer of the high standing and ability of Dr. Cama to do the work of a medical examiner.

On a division the amendment was lost.

The expenditure in respect of three of the departments was passed as follows: Corporation and Standing Committee's Establishment, at Rs. 52,940; Municipal Commissioner's Personal Office Establishment, at Rs. 55,300; and General Office Establishment at Rs. 37,610.

The Committee then adjourned.

THE CITY MORTALITY.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a.m., yesterday, give the following results:—

Wards.	Plague. Attacks.	Deaths.	Deaths from all Causes.
A Upper, Mundvi & Lower Colaba, Fort Northern, Fort Southern and Esplanade	0	0	6
B Mandvi, Chuckla, Umarkhadi and Dongri	6	4	28
C Market, Dhobi Talao, Fanaswadi, Bhuleshwar, Khara Talao and Kumbharwada	4	1	22
D Khetwady, Girgaum, Chowpatty, Walkeshwar and Malabarhill	0	1	13
E Mazagon, Tarwadi, 2nd Nagpada, Kamatipura, Tardeo, Byculla and 1st Nagpada	8	3	25
F Parel, Sewri and Sion	0	3	11
G Mahim and Worli	0	0	11
Water Division	0	0	0
Non-Resident and Unknown	0	0	0
Hospitals	0	10	17
Total	18	22	133
Total plague deaths to date	60,390	53,162	
Same date last year	5	4	94

DAMAUN.

There were two deaths from plague on the 18th instant at Machiwada, outside the Fort in Upper Damaun, the victims being Machis, father and son. At Varkoond there was one death from plague on 20th instant and another on the 21st, both the victims being Mohomedans.

Until the 20th instant medical examination of all persons coming to Damaun was carried on by Mr. Anselmo Araujo in the Fort of St Jeronimo, in Lower Damaun, but it is now ordered that in future such examination will be made at a house hired by Government and which was formerly in the occupation of Mr. Ribeiro, situate at a mile's distance from the Fort at Upper Damaun, which will entail a great hardship upon people, particularly females and children of Lower Damaun, Kharriwadi and Varkoond to cross the creek and trudge their way to the new place, especially as there are no public conveyances plying for hire. As a majority of the arrivals are at Lower Damaun, the Government School there, where Dr. Virato Pinto, the late Plague Commissioner, examined all the arrivals last year, would be a most convenient place for the daily examination for ten days.

THE SAMOAN DIFFICULTY.

ENGLAND'S OFFER TO GERMANY.

THE "Vossische Zeitung" learns that the British Government has offered Germany the Gilbert Islands and her portion of the Solomon Islands in return for Germany's renunciation of her claims to Samoa. The publication of this report, which may or may not be quite correct, points (says the Berlin correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph") to what I understand is a fact, that the solution of the Samoa question is on the eve of completion.

According to the foregoing statement Germany is now likely to abandon her share in the tripartite arrangement for the government of the Samoa Islands, which will in that event be left to England and the United States. In the repeated revolts which have broken out in Samoa German blood has been shed, and this fact in the eyes of the German people strengthened their claim in the matter. It was not, however, so much a sentimental attachment to the Samoas as the need of a coaling station in the Pacific which actuated Germany in the dispute.

Solomon Islands, which lie to the south-west of the Gilbert Islands, and which are situated between New Guinea and the Fiji and Samoan Islands, are noted for their earthquakes and coral reefs. The whole group is for the most part covered with thick forests, and the climate is generally unhealthy. Up to the present the group has been divided between Germany and England, the former having the larger and England the smaller and southern section. Gilbert or King's Mill Islands form a Pacific group, the largest of which, Tapitsonan, is thirty miles by half a mile. Discovered by Commodore Byron in 1765, the group was annexed by the British in 1892. The native population ranges from 22,000 to 25,000. The Europeans, numbering less than 100, are chiefly English, American, and German.

Reuter's Agency is informed that the report contained in the "Vossische Zeitung" to the effect that the British Government has offered Germany the Gilbert and Solomon Islands in return for Germany's renunciation of her claims in Samoa cannot be described as an accurate statement. It is, nevertheless, true that negotiations are at present proceeding in regard to the situation in Samoa, and it is practically admitted that it is desirable that this group of islands should be placed under the control of one Power in preference to the present tripartite arrangement, which has given rise to so much difficulty in the past. The negotiations have not yet been brought to any definite conclusion.

THE number of persons in receipt of gratuitous relief or on famine works in India increased during the last week for which the figures have been received by 167,016, despite a decrease of 5,746 in the Central India States. The Central Provinces, which last week notified an increase of nearly 80,000, this week show the addition of 18,904, making the total for the Provinces 533,173. Bombay's increase is 22,361, bringing up thte total receiving relief to 169,354. Ajmere-Merwara shows nearly 80,000 in receipt of relief, and the Punjab and the Rajputana States each well over 70,000.

THE scandal of the huge naval frauds which first cropped out about two years ago, and which have since been under the dilatory process of Russian legal investigation, will be brought before a Naval Court-martial here on December 3rd next, the members of the special tribunal being nominated by the Minister of Marine. The number of persons in the Government Procurator's indictment is forty-three, and includes many officers and officials of high rank, several of them holding the honorary title of State Councillor. One of the primarily accused officials escaped to Turkey before the arrest warrants were made out, and two others, both senior naval officers, committed suicide. These frauds in all branches of the naval commissar at had been carried on systematically for a long number of years, and the total defalcations are said to amount to some ten or twelve millions of roubles. If it be true, as stated, that the Grand Duke Alexei Alexandrovitch, Admiral-General of the Russian Navy, is the prime mover in the impending prosecution, the more guilty of the accused officers and officials will be rigorously punished.

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

BEFORE THE SIEGE.

A LAST WORD FROM MAFEKING.

THE following, which reaches us to-day, says the "Westminster Gazette," is one of the last letters which got through from Mafeking before communication was broken:

MAFEKING, October 9, 1899.

Although there is little to indicate that anything out of the common is likely to happen before we are many hours older, and the inhabitants of Mafeking are to-day going about their ordinary avocations in their customary cheerful manner, the gravity of the situation is by no means lost sight of, and everyone is ready for a call to arms. There are 6,000 Boers, in three laagers, each consisting of 2,000 men, just over the Transvaal border, within about eight miles of Mafeking. They have machine guns and several modern breech-loading field-pieces with them. General Piet Cronje is in chief command. Burghers from Lichtenburg, Malmani, Zeerust, and other parts of the Western Transvaal are swelling their numbers daily; and they are only awaiting the arrival of more guns from Lichtenburg, whither they were recently sent from the depot at Pretoria, to make, in conjunction with commandos at Maritzani and close to Vryburg, a simultaneous movement on Vryburg and Mafeking. This information regarding their intentions has been brought in by reliable scouts; indeed they make no mystery as to their designs themselves. Having taken Vryburg and Mafeking, they will destroy the railway line south of the former town and north of the latter, and thus prevent the advance of imperial troops, and provide a means of reaching the Transvaal for rebel Dutch from the Colony, Bechuanaland, and the Protectorate. As regards Vryburg, where a considerable portion of the inhabitants are Dutch and in open sympathy with the Transvaal unless Imperial troops with artillery are moved upvery shortly, it certainly looks as if Cronje may be successful in carrying out his programme. At Mafeking, however, he will not be allowed a walk over. Our defensive force consists of Colonel Hore's wing of Colonel Baden-Powel's mounted Bechuanaland Protectorate Regiment, nominally 500 but actually about 400 strong; about seventy of the British South Africa Police, also mounted, under Colonel Walford; a handful of Cape Police, under Inspector Brown; the Bechuanaland Rifles, some seventy strong, under Captain Cowan; and the Town Guard, comprising most of the able-bodied inhabitants of the town. Colonel Baden-Powell, who arrived from Bulawayo a few days ago, is in chief command of all armed forces in Mafeking and Vryburg. Altogether, we can probably muster about 700 fighting men, of whom two-thirds have seen service and are thoroughly to be depended upon. Colonel Hore's men and the B. S. A. Police have between them six muzzle-loading seven-pounders of obsolete pattern, and a number of Nordenfelt, Hotchkiss, and Maxim machine guns. They are armed with the Lee-Metford rifle, and, while using the hardnosed bullet for target practice (the Boers are all armed with the Mauser rifle taking an expanding bullet not greatly dissimilar to the Dum-dum), the Cape Police, Bechuanaland Rifles and Town Guard carry the Martini-Henry. An armoured train is always in readiness at an hour's notice at the railway station. It consists of an ordinary four-coupled locomotive, protected all over—tender included—with 7-16in. steel boiler plate, and two bogie trucks, protected to a height of 5ft. at the ends and sides with rails, bolted close together longitudinally. The engine pushes one truck in front of her and hauls the other. Instructions are conveyed to the driver by a system of bells and speaking-tubes. Each truck carries two machine guns and has accommodation for fifty men. Several runs have been made to Lobatsi, about thirty miles north of this, and back, with the armoured train, the appearance of which must have considerably astonished any Boers who may chance to have seen it. The engine is painted a dull drab colour throughout, and looks like a haystack on wheels. Volleys were fired at her from Martinis at short ranges to test the strength of the armour. The bullets made slight dents but did no real damage. It is probable, however, that the plates would be penetrated by either the Mauser or Lee-Metford bullet, though the force would be sufficiently broken to prevent injury to the boiler or motion, if not to the men on the footplate. Several small forts have been erected at points of vantage outside the town, and Warren's old fort to the north across the Molapo River has been put into serviceable order. Breastworks of earth and sandbags are visible here and there in town, and trenches have been cut on three sides most open to attack. The Standard Bank is about half full of sandbags, and several other buildings are similarly protected. Merchants and shopkeepers have had to supply the military authorities with lists of the foodstuffs they hold in stock, and it has been found that supplies are considerably below the average. This is accounted for by the increased consumption due to the large number of refugees who have come into Mafeking from the Transvaal. Many women and children have already left the town, and yesterday a proclamation was issued by Colonel Baden-Powell strongly advising those remaining to leave at once, as the Boers may shell the town. An order has also been issued to the effect that there were nine known Transvaal spies in town, and that unless they left by noon yesterday they would be apprehended. Several Dutchmen cleared out yesterday, but nobody seems to know who were the nine spies. Some people suggest that the notice to quit was only a little bit of bluff on the part of the military authorities. A public meeting was held a week ago, and an urgent telegram to Sir Alfred Milner, representing the inadequately protected state of Mafeking and asking for reinforcements, was the outcome. His Excellency promised to do his best, but no additions to our garrison have as yet made their appearance.

There are several special correspondents representing the London daily Press in Mafeking. The Rev. Adrian Hofmeyr, who arrived here two months ago intending to visit the trekkers at Lake N'gami, has had to abandon the trip, as his native boys deserted on account of the disturbed state of the country. He has been appointed special correspondent to the "Times," and his contributions should carry great weight. To-morrow (Tuesday) is Paul Kruger's birthday, and an impression has got about to the effect that the anniversary will be made the occasion of an attack both on the eastern and western border. There must be close on 18,000 British troops on the Natal side by this time, and they should be well able to hold their own, though not to act on the offensive. On our side, Mafeking will do its best to keep the Boers out, though it must be confessed that the odds against us are decidedly ominous.

P.S.—Dr. Jameson was here last week, and returned to Bulawayo on Thursday. While here, he and one of the Imperial officers are reported to have visited Cronje's camp in disguise. Jameson is of opinion that Kruger will give in if he can persuade his people to consent; but I am confident that matters have gone too far now for the Boers not to fight.

BALLOONS IN WAR.

IN no campaign have balloons been employed to anything like the extent that it is probable they may be in the Boer war. It is believed that in no army in the world has so much attention been paid to the study of military ballooning as in that of Queen Victoria. Next to our own army, in this repect, comes that of Germany, where the science of field aeronautics has been persistently encouraged for some considerable time past.

It required very powerful advocacy to convince the leaders of military thought of the utility of balloon, in warfare. The movement did not come from within but from without—from the scientific associations of Great Britain and the Continent. Now, however, no doubt appears to be entertained as to their usefulness. It has been demonstrated on several occasions that balloons have little or nothing to fear from rifle fire. Modern rifles are of such small calibre that aerostats even when struck, suffer but little, and the difficulty of hitting them is extremely great, for the reason that when they are sent up there are no ready means of ascertaining, even approximately, how far away they may be. They are, however, more vulnerable to artillery fire—again in case they are struck—but in this instance the difficulty of "ranging" is considerably multiplied, on account of the abnormal degree of "elevation" that is required to make a gun shoot into the air, a difficulty that is further intensified in the case of modern ordnance with a "flat" trajectory, and, at the best, balloons are always a "moving target."

The balloon outfit sent out to South Africa is a very extensive one. Balloons are principally employed for "reconnaissance" or "observation" purposes, and are almost invariably captive. They are usually attached to a ballasted cart drawn by six horses, driven by men who are mounted in the same fashion as artillery drivers are. As shown in our illustration, the cart bears a drum, around which are several fathoms of stout hawser—sometimes of wire, at other times of hemp. The hawser not only holds the balloon captive when it is "up," but it also serves as a means of communication between the observation party in the car of the balloon and those on the ground below, inasmuch as their written messages and reports are placed in a leathern bag, which has a metal ring attachment, which, when released, slides down the line. Experiments have recently been made at Aldershot in the matter of dropping explosives from balloons. They are believed to have been successful but whether they will be used in the present war is highly problematical.

When in mid-air one member of the balloon observation party usually takes his place in the netting, and it is from this position that the photographic apparatus, which forms a portion of the equipment of every military aerostat, is used.

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

FRENCH OPINION OF THE BOER WAR.

SOME of the Paris papers exult over English reverses, actual or prospective, while others urge that this is a proper moment for an attempt to conclude peace. Thus among the latter the *Temps*, reminding the Boers that they are sure to be outnumbered, says:—

"This would perhaps be the moment for the Cape Afrikanders, for that Schreiner Ministry which has placed its loyalty beyond dispute by signing Sir Alfred Milner's proclamation, to attempt a moral mediation "in extremis," and to endeavour to obtain from England generous offers such as those which Lord Salisbury seemed to sketch the other day in the House of Lords, and from the Transvaal concessions as extensive as the situation requires. It would be a crime not to do everything to shorten a war so sanguinary, the issue of which is so little doubtful."

M. Mermeix writes in the "Soleil":—

"The decisive campaign will begin about December 10 or 15, when General Buller will have concentrated his troops. Up to that moment Mr. Kruger will have a respite. Why does he not profit by this delay? Events have shown how valiant and heroic the Boers are. The honour and glory of this brave little people have increased by the ordeal of fire in the engagements in Natal. But these engagements must have shown to Mr. Kruger that his burghers, notwithstanding all their courage and patriotic abnegation, cannot outweigh the superiority of the trained and disciplined English soldiers. The combined Boer force have not been able to make any effect upon the 5,000 or 9,000 English in Natal. What could they do against the 50,000 men who will be in the field in December? Die? What would be the use, now that honour has been saved? Why should not Mr. Kruger make overtures of peace now? The terms that he would obtain before the landing and concentration of the English army would doubtless be better than those which will be imposed upon him when the Transvaal is at the mercy of its aggressor. The continuation of the war can only lead to useless slaughter of men. Why cause hundreds more of the valiant burghers to be killed, since their death does not seem likely to change destiny, and, we repeat, since there is no honour to be saved, the honour of the Boers being beyond all question?"

M. Valfrey, in the "Figaro," in a like spirit warns the Boers against illusions. He says:—

"It is impossible not to be struck by the fact that the Boers were ill inspired in declaring war against England in a moment of impatience or despair. For my part I have never had any illusion as to the power of their military forces against the British Government, and if I have admitted that they might have some small successes at the beginning, I have never for a single moment thought that the final result would in two months or six months turn to their advantage. If the Boers had better understood their interests, they would have made in seasonable time and without too close an examination the concessions that were demanded. The first events of the war are not of a nature, it will be readily admitted, to change my first conviction. When hostilities began it was generally supposed that the English, taken unprepared, were unable to offer any serious resistance to the invasion of Natal and that they were condemned to fall back until the arrival of reinforcements from England. Even this calculation was not well founded. With the still small forces at their disposal in their South African Empire, the English have victoriously warded off the first blows. While proclaiming that they were unprepared public opinion had entirely forgotten that since the rupture of the Bloemfontein Conference the British Government had not ceased to send every week small bodies of troops and small cases of ammunition to South Africa, and at the end of three months these successive shipments had amounted to a considerable total, which has just shown its value, to the great astonishment of Europe. . . . As to the probability of any foreign intervention in favour of the Transvaal it is not to be thought of for an instant. England's naval predominance is certainly abused, and it excites an increasing hostility among Governments and peoples, but it is not in the defence of the liberties and independence of the Transvaal that this hostility will break out."

"ENGLAND'S DIFFICULTY" AND FRANCE'S OPPORTUNITY.

PARIS, October 31st.

As this letter concerns matters of somewhat serious import, matters the true significance of which is apparently not understood or appreciated on the other side of the Channel, I will at once commence by directing attention to just three features of official activity here. First, a couple of weeks past it was announced in the semi-official Press that at this eleventh hour the War Estimates were about to be sensibly cut down. France had, under stress of economic conditions, determined to reduce her Army Budget and abandon a career of Colonial adventure, until at least the doors of next year's great Exhibition had been closed.

Secondly, despite all denials to the contrary, I have due reason for asserting that never since this time last year, when the inconvenient Marchand became the central figure in the world's politics, have the naval authorities at Toulon been so pressed for want of repose; and thirdly, the 19th Army Corps has during the last three weeks been called upon to supply a strong column for immediate service. The destination of the "strong column" has not even been hinted in War Office circles, but this I do know—that it is intended to be a very strong "column" indeed, as I think will be generally admitted when I mention that in Algeria—the *locale* of the 19th Corps—it has transpired that a force of some 20,000 men are being prepared to take the field. As no evidence exists that sea transport is being sought for, it would appear for this and less striking reasons that no new overseas position is in the air, such as would be the case if Tripoli was the objective. Remains the "Sick Man" of the West—Morocco? But I will leave my English reader to form their own conclusions upon this interesting question after they have read this letter; but I must first ask them to bear with me if I, by force of unavoidable circumstances, bring forward some rather roundabout evidence in aiding the arrival at that conclusion.

IRRITATION AMONG THE GENERALS.

Now the Marquis de Galliffet did unconsciously an excellent good turn to perfidious Albion when a few days ago, at one fell swoop he clipped the wings of the Conseil Superior de la Guerre. First he withdrew the power of promoting field officers to general rank from that august body; then he sent two of those satraps into retirement; and finally this terrible Minister of War has issued a ukase ordering the remaining members of the Council to relinquish one of their most valued privileges—that of living *en permanence* in the capital. Within the last five months three of the seven generals of L'Armee Francais, commencing with the popular and really capable De Negrier, have, on one excuse or another, been deposed from the tremendous positions that they enjoyed, and perhaps ere this reaches London a fourth (General Jamont) will have received his congé. And the minority, who are still permitted to "live," find it by no means an easy or pleasurable matter, at a few days' notice, to break up their Parisian establishments. The rent alone of the hotel of one of the generals runs into quite one thousand two hundred pounds a year, and he will find it by no means easy to re-let it at this season. Thus it may be conceived with what amiable feelings they, and no less their staffs, regard General de Galliffet, the reformer, who nearly three decades past reformed off the face of this earth all the Communists that fell into his hands and who now has reformed out of Paris "the great Chiefs of the Army." A wounded sense of "amour propre" sometimes unlocks lips hitherto sealed, and, owing to this reason, I have to thank the present Minister of War for having inadvertently been the indirect cause of my being able to communicate the opinions of one of the Superior Council of War upon subject of deep interest at the present time to England. As the conversation I refer to was in no sense that of a formal interview, I must be excused if I reproduce it, and only portions of it, too, in extremely guarded terms. And as I am here skating on the thinnest of thin ice, I purposely refrain from particularising the distinguished officer I am about to quote, as being a member of the same Superior Council of War now partially disestablished, or as one, who served as a member of the Superior Council during the last—say, three or four years. Enough to say that the recent drastic changes have almost as keenly wounded the feelings of Generals who in the past were belonging to the Council, as they have those of the dispossessed officers and their remaining colleagues.

FRENCH OFFICERS WITH THE BOERS.

It having been whispered here in military circles that quite a number of French Artillery officers had recently (since Kruger's ultimatum) accepted employment under the Transvaal and Free State Republics in their own arm of service, the General, commenting upon a careless remark apropos of this rumour which has been passed on from the Military Club, thus expressed himself:—"Of course every body but an imbecile is aware that no officer of the Active Army could procure such sufficiently long leave of absence as would permit a voyage to the Transvaal and participation in the war. In fact, no officers receive long periods of leave except those who may be officially engaged in confidential military missions, and there is certainly no possible reason in existence for despatching staff or other officers to any part of South Africa, except in the open position of accredited military attaches. We have no military interests in that region of Africa. Ours are on the southern literal of the Mediterranean." "Which is destined to eventually become a 'French Lake'—N'est-ce pas?" To which remark, shot at a venture, the General answered without hesitation: "Certainly, that is our consistent policy; and before very few years you will see the great dream of General Faidherbe realised—a homogeneous Franco-African Empire extending from the Mediterranean to the Soudan." "But then, Morocco is an inconvenient *enclave*," was urged. But the General, sincerely desirous of explaining the situation as to the question of officers with the Boers, had now dropped the subject of national aspirations, and took up his former theme. Replying to a query at hazard, as to the position of others than those on the active list, he said; "As to the status of officers of the Reserve and Territorial Army resident in South Africa, there can be no doubt as to the fact that they would be violating the strict letter of the law of nations if they serve in a war in which their mother country is a 'natural,' But," continued the General, with a marked increase of animation in his voice, "however disposed France may be to reward England with good for evil," and to set her a convincing example as to the duties that in war time one neutral owes to another" (here, of course was meant the Madagascar incident of Colonels Shervington and Graves, neither of whom, by the way, were ever in the English Army and both of whom were formally repudiated by England), it cannot be reasonably expected that the Quai D'Orsay of the Boulevard St. Germain should send out "mouchards" to the seat of war to ascertain, for the satisfaction of England, the names and positions of foreign officers in the Boer forces who are "suspect." France has many large financial interests in Johannesburg; so large is the number of her citizens who are engaged in the Transvaal in purely commercial pursuits that just before the war the French Consul at Pretoria was raised to the grade of Consul General." "Would it be possible that there are now a hundred officers of the Reserve and Territorial Armies in South Africa?" was a question prompted by the foregoing, and to this the General, who, as he explained, had really given no attention to the subject, replied: "Oh, yes; it is not at all improbable, considering what a number of Frenchmen have during the last few years proceeded to the Cape. In effect, South Africa has perhaps absorbed the greater portion of such of our countrymen as are "wanderers." (Significant sidelight upon Gallic colonisation.)

"STARTLING SURPRISES."

I then recalled an incident of the "terrible year" as recounted. I fancy, in Dr. Busch's "Life of Bismarck," when, at the Chancellor's dinner-table at Versailles a rumour having been mentioned that 13,000 of Garibaldi's "red shirts" had been made prisoners, the man of blood and iron grimly observed "That is folly to make prisoners of such a number of mere "franc-tireurs" who even (I of course omitted the insulting word "even") are not Frenchmen. Why have they not been shot?" "Suppose Sir Redvers Buller adopts Bismarck's merciless view, if French Officers of the Reserve or Territorial Forces fall into his hands, would France then seriously interfere on their behalf?" I ventured to enquire. "That is not a question now to discuss; we have not yet heard that Frenchmen who can be proved to be officers of the French Army have become prisoners, or have been even reported by English correspondents as being present in the Boer ranks."

And with this sapient observation this profoundly interesting conversation closed, the distinguished officer who thus so far honoured me with an exposition of his ideas bidding me adieu with the final cryptic remark: "It is possible England may soon find some startling surprises."

THE NATURE OF THE FRENCH AUXILIARIES.

I am, for reasons which may or may not be based upon trifles as light as air, some way or another convinced that, as with a lady's post-script, the real importance of the conversation I had been favoured with crystallised itself into the last few words. Was I to seek for possible coming surprises in connection with the by no means impossible fact that scores of French Reserve and Territorial officers are at this moment soldiering under assumed names in General Joubert's Army? Scarcely, if is to be at all believed Mr. Lionel Decle, when in his well-known "Trooper 3809" we read: "As for the Reserves, suffice it to say that officers of the Active Army refuse to regard them seriously. The officers of the Reserve (for the most part promoted privates) have received no military education worthy of the name. . . . But behind these stands yet another 'line of defence'—the Territorial Army and its Reserves—an Army composed of men who have a faint recollection that they were once drilled. There is something pathetic, as well as absurd in picturing these middle-aged citizens in time of war. I am not myself a military man, nor have I any knowledge of the French Army of such as I have acquired by the almost daily contact with the French officer and soldier that comes from living a prolonged period—nearly thirty years in my case—in France, and more especially her Capital. But I do happen to know that Lionel Decle's much-talked-of work is regarded by very many of those who, like him, have been through the military mill as a singularly accurate picture of the inner life of the great national institution upon which so many countless milliards have been expended. And I am inclined to accept his opinion as to the efficiency of the class of officer who may be in the Transvaal—to wit, those who are appointed to the Reserve from the ranks of cavalry and infantry regiments in the Active Army, and would be found in a great busy city, such as Johannesburg, managing hot els, running restaurants, or, mayhap, conducting the French correspondence of great mercantile houses and mining companies. True, if officers of the French Artillery, and there are no more efficient in the world, were on the spot, that would be quite another affair. But the officer of that arm—it being a corps d'elite—remains serving until, as a rule, he is compelled to retire owing to the operation of the age clause; and so we may put the Artillery out of the running as being possible Reservists. Before finally dismissing this subject, I may say that there was after all some foundation for the rumour that originated a few evenings past at the Military Club which the Army owes to the now almost forgotten General Boulanger.

Some officers (non-commissioned officers) of the Artillery who have had a long period of service, and who are in receipt of pensions, have been engaged—presumably by agents of Dr. Leyds—and despatched as second class passengers by the German East African Steamship Company to Delagoa Bay. I understand very few—not more than a dozen—have gone, for it would take a very strong inducement indeed to make a pensioned Frenchman leave his beloved land for the other side of the world.

But, after this brief digression, to return to the subject of this letter. Yesterday I was fortunate in being able to possess myself of half an hour of the busy day of a diplomatist who has spent a couple of years at Albert Gate, who has also been at Cairo and Washington, a triple experience which has resulted in the acquirement of very pronounced views regarding British policy in Africa.

A FRENCH DIPLOMATIST ON MOROCCO.

That the standpoint from which he, as a diplomatist, regards the mission of his country in the Dark Continent is not wholly displeasing to his chief, may be inferred from the fact that he has been thought very highly of by M. Hanotaux, with whom he was brought into intimate personal relations when that very clever and astute statesman first went in 1894 to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Since then he has has enjoyed the ex-Minister's private friendship. Discretion restrains me from saying anything further as to the identity of the official whose opinions I am now about to quote, beyond merely adding that he is not now under the Foreign Office (owing to which circumstance I am enabled to reproduce certain of his utterances), and that he is, on the other hand, now very actively associated with the dearest aspirations of that Colonial circle which had so much to do with the project of obtaining command of the Nile Valley.

He seems inflamed with the idea that just Providence has now placed in the hands of France the opportunity for seeking compensation for what she suffered just a twelvemonth ago; but at the same time he desires that it be fully understood that if his country made a definite and important step towards the consolidation of her African territories it was by no means the outcome of a new thirst for African adventure created by her rival's difficulties.

But perhaps it would be better if I endeavour to record his own words, of which I made several notes, and which he was good enough to correct for me. The application of the Monroe doctrine to Morocco, from the French Colonial Party's point of view, need in nowise be regarded by England as a reason for surprise, but rather as the logical outcome of a long continued policy.

For France's attitude with regard to what it conceives to be its legitimate interest in the Moorish Empire has never wavered a hairsbreadth. On the contrary Britain's policy, when nominally attempting to apply a plaster to the bruises of the "Sick Man" of El Morghab, has been precisely the reverse.

"Par exemple," it has been one of alternate brutal brow-beating and extreme "friendliness," and it has never departed from these extreme points of what your successive Ministers at Tangiers have been pleased to stigmatise as "diplomacy." But never has Downing-street shown a general disposition to boldly grasp the nettle of the Moorish question when France was willing to discuss a mutual appraisement of interests in the North-Western corner of Africa.

ENGLAND'S CHANCE NOT TAKEN.

I will tell you of one instance in particular that happened to be within my own knowledge. In 1885 or 1886 long prior to the international re-arrangement of the "carte'd Afrique," Tangiers was within Britain's grasp had the Government frankly acquiesced in the extension of the Franco-African Empire to its natural sphere—Morocco. But England's Foreign Ministers elected to obtain their ends by indirect means, by declarations that none of the Mediterranean Powers believed in, by manoeuvres which never in the faintest degree imposed upon the sagacity of either our Minister of Foreign Affairs or of the Colonies; and, lastly, by a sudden resolution that had not even the merit of taking by surprise the very least intelligent of the political entourage of the then Sultan Mulai Hassan.

Allude, of course, to the attempt made to board the Sultan by the Military Diplomatist from Zanzibar—Colonel Sir Euan Smith. As you will perhaps remember, Sir Euan's experiment was not a wholly successful one. As a result of that fiasco all Christendom laughed at England's diplomacy fresh from the forcing houses of Muscat and Zanzibar, and all Islam thrilled with the knowledge that the diplomatists of the Crescent had shown themselves much wilier and better informed than those of the Cross. It seems to have become a rule of British diplomacy, when dealing with territorial adjustments in Africa, to refine on the old-world maxims of Talleyrand and Metternich, that a crooked path is always preferable even when the direct road is safe, and that an evasion or pack of evasions is useful even when the truth can do no harm.

I repeat, and now amplify the statement I made a moment past. In 1885 or 1886 (that leaves you the English Parties to divide the blame between them) a sometime English officer then in the Moorith service assured an unofficial "confidant" of the statesman who then held the seals of the English Foreign Office, that it had become known to him that France for the future intended to regard Morocco as her heritage in North Africa, and that, as the price of the tacit acknowledgment of her claims in that direction, she would gladly agree to England's seizure of Tangiers. This communication, it is hardly needful to say, does not appear in Blue-book literature, although it is not altogether unbeknown within the walls of Downing-street. And, indeed, any unprejudiced observer must admit there is some "raison d'etre for Gallic claims with respect to the Mahommedan Empire of the West, remembering what a boon to the civilised world has been the conquest by France of the old Barbary States. From Algiers, as a centre civilised institutions have gradually filtered through to the confines of the Great Sahara, and won back to Europe a long-lost province of Roman Christendom. A magnificent railway system extends at present in an unbroken line from Golletta to the very frontier of Morocco, and ultimately to the cities of Marakish and Fez and thence to the Atlantic.

And so, I remarked, breaking in perhaps unpolitely upon my friend's dissertation, "and so the Algerian Army Corps is getting ready for eventualities?" "That I cannot pretend to say," he replied, "but events, as well as troops, move quickly nowadays."

And as I took my leave I felt no longer in doubt as to the nature of the "startling surprise" that is about to be attempted to be sprung upon exceedingly busy England.—*St. James's Budget.*

A VOLUNTEER RESERVE.

THE following letter appears in the "Daily Graphic":—

Sir,—In 1859 the anti-British vapouring of French colonels gave birth to the Volunteer Force. Now the hostile tone towards England of the foreign Press ought to give birth to an organised Volunteer Reserve. A letter from General Peel in 1859 made us volunteer then, and I am certain that a letter now from the Minister of War inviting emeriti Volunteers of fighting age to be enrolled and attached as a reserve to their respective regiments for home service when required, would meet with as ready a response as that made to the letter of the Secretary of State for War forty years ago. Foreigners would then see that they have to dealwith half a million at least of armed and trained Britons—plus the Regular Army, Militia Yeomanry and Volunteers now serving.

I feel very certain that this would have a most sedative effect on our many foreign friends.—Yours faithfully, WEMYSS.

P.S.—There is a Parliamentary Return I moved for many years ago which I think—for I have no copy by me—showed that up to date 800,000 Volunteers had passed through our ranks.

23, St. James's Place, S.W., November 1st.

THE EMPIRE AND SEA POWER.

THE British Empire is the *gift* of sea power. Its maintenance and its defence are the function of sea power. Sea power surrounds and sustains the Empire as the utmost fear, surrounds, and sustains a living organism, and in each case the interdependence of the two is so intimate, so constant, and so pervading that it almost eludes conscious observation. But a single and very simple illustration will reveal its full significance. Change the atmosphere into carbonic acid gas and no living organism can exist. Change the sea into carbonic acid gas and the British Empire is at an end. It may seem almost paradoxical to insist upon this characteristic of the Empire at a moment when we are sending out almost to the southern limits of the eastern hemisphere the largest military force that has left these shores since the Crimean war, and when Sir Redvers Buller will shortly take command in South Africa of the largest force of purely British troops that a British general has ever commanded in the field. At first sight it might seem that sea power has nothing to do with this. In reality it has everything to do with it. South Africa would be nothing to us and we nothing to South Africa if sea power had not long ago established and sanctioned our supremacy there. We could say nothing to its internal dissensions if the same historic agency did not still guarantee that supremacy. If either through alliances or as an element of their own warlike resources our enemies had disposed of a naval force, puny even as compared with our own, not a transport could safely have left these shores until that force had been accounted for. How far the known strength at sea of this country has deprived our enemies of allies we need not too curiously consider. But as there are few naval Powers which have not some account to settle with Great Britain it is neither unreasonable nor uncharitable to conjecture that had we been weak at sea some one or other of these Powers might have found in the despatch of a great military expedition to South Africa an opportunity too tempting to be resisted of pressing its accout to a settlement.

It would, perhaps, be going too far to say that our strength at sea has foreclosed any such opportunity. But it is strictly and most significantly true to say that the enterprise on which we are at present engaged is a manifestation of sea power almost unsurpassed in its implications and suggestions. . . . The despatch of the expedition to South Africa has weakened our naval defences in no material respect. In common prudence we have disposed our available forces at sea so as to be ready for all emergencies; but whatever weight our strength at sea may have had in the councils of Europe before the war began remains absolutely undiminished by the fact that we have found it necessary to concentrate a large military force in South Africa without calling on the Fleet for any services beyond those which it exists to render alike in peace and in war. We are, in fact, as much at peace on the seas as if South Africa were as tranquil as Middlesex, and we incur no greater risk at sea because we are at war in South Africa than we do at all times in a world where, if we were not supreme at sea, we could exist as an Empire and even as a nation only on sufferance. If this sense of security were felt only by ourselves, it might perhaps be regarded by those who know not the historic import of sea power as merely a sign of insular infatuation. But we are glad to note a sound appreciation of it in one of the soberer organs of Continental opinion. "Even if England sends 100,000 men to South Africa," remarks the "Berliner Neueste Nachrichten," she will be in no wise weakened as regards Germany; since in this case only the Fleet comes into serious consideration, and England continues to have her Navy entirely at her own disposal. These words go to the root of the matter. Whatever guarantee the British Fleet may afford for peace in Europe is not in the least impaired by the situation in South Africa.—"Times."

A very favourable point is the marked and somewhat unexpected improvement in the New York bank statement, which, instead of a decrease, shows an increase in the surplus reserves of the Associated Banks of dols. 1,600,000, bringing them up to dols. 3,040,000. The monetary position in New York should, indeed, now improve from week to week with the return of funds from the interior.

THE semi-official "North German Gazette" and a great variety of other journals, such as the "Berliner Neueste Nachrichten," "the Kreuz Zeitung," and the "Berliner Lokal Anzeiger," were in a position on Oct. 28 to publish an article on the German navy, propounding a fresh scheme for strengthening the fleet, which would involve an average increase in the present annual non-recurring expenditure for new constructions from 60,000,000 marks (3,000,000*l.*) to 85,000,000 marks (4,250,000*l.* sterling); an increase from 9,000,000 to 12,000,000 marks in other non-recurring annual expenditure; and an increase of 5,000,000 marks in annually rec

PURELY PERSONAL.

SIR WILLIAM MACCORMAC, whose generous offer to superintend the arrangements for the wounded in the Transvaal War has been gratefully accepted by the Government, is one of the most popular of living men. Perhaps the popularity is partly due to a magnificent physique; or perhaps it would be more accurate to say that the fine physique is the proper frame for a very fine nature. He is a tremendous man; some six feet four high, and broad-shouldered, deep-chested, huge-limbed in proportion, but it is the hugeness of large bones and a fine frame, not of middle-aged obesity. There is not a pound of superfluous flesh on the great figure. The face is also in exact proportion to the figure, for it is long, massive, with a fine, strong nose, a large forehead, a full beard that used to be chestnut, and is now just turning to white.

He is an Irishman by birth—born in Belfast in '38, and was educated in the Queen's College there, and in the medical schools of Dublin and Paris. He always had a love for the army hospital; and the moment the Franco-German War broke out, became the surgeon of the Anglo-American ambulance; followed the French troops throughout the war; was present at the battle of Sedan, and was everywhere the bold, tender, and at the same time revolutionary surgeon, who saved lives or cut off limbs; and often ran risks as great as those of the combatant officer or the special correspondent.

Many people are asking how the young Duchess of Sutherland—has managed to see so much of the inside of the Socialist movement, and how she has learned to steer among the curious cross-currents. It fell out thus. More than two years ago Miss Margaret Macmillan was lecturing one Sunday in the Morris Labour Church at Leek, in Staffordshire. The Duchess was hard by, at Trentham. Her mind was already occupied with the education of the people, what it was, and what it might be, and also with the hideous conditions of life and labour in the Potteries, which lay, as it were, just outside her palace gates. She determined to hear for herself what a highly educated woman, a leader of Socialist thought and activity, had to say. The Duchess dropped into the lecture-hall just as any other item in the audience did. She was introduced to Miss Macmillan after the lecture under some simple, commonplace name, and after a long talk revealed her full personality, and begged for a continuance of the intercourse. The friendship thus begun ripened steadily. The Duchess, in her ardour and research, visited Bradford (where Miss Macmillan is a member of the School Board) in the dripping days of black November, and saw for herself what the children and the schools and the life of a great manufacturing town were like.

There is much talk in financial circles in London just now of the doings of Mr. Ernest Lidgey, the distinguished Victorian Government geologist, who for the last few months has been engaged upon the Hampton Plains Estate, endeavouring to locate the situation of the Kalgurli and Redhill formations, which are said to be concealed there, although covered by accumulated alluvial deposits. Situated as the estate is on the direct line of main reef formation between Kalgurli and Redhill, experts have always maintained that this formation must pass through the estate, but it has been reserved for Mr. Lidgey to prove the truth of this theory. He is to be congratulated upon the fortunate outcome of his laborious and scientific investigations.

Here is another little story of Sir Redvers Buller. On one occasion he was proceeding to Canada with a regiment of soldiers. Off the entrance to the St. Lawrence River, however, the vessel was enveloped in fogs and delayed, so that provisions ran short. On an islet near by was a station for shipwrecked mariners, and Sir Redvers went ashore in a boat to ask for assistance. When he arrived he found the stores in charge of a woman, to whom he applied for assistance. "No," she said, "the supplies be for they who'm shipwrecked, not for such as you!" "But this is a Government depot, and we are servants of the Crown?" replied Buller. "Can't help it; you'm not shipwrecked!" Now Sir Redvers thought he recognised the intonation of the woman's last remark, so he at once assumed the Cornish accent, and said: "What! not for dear old One and All, and I a Buller?" "What? be yew from Cornwall, en' a Buller? Take everything there is in the place; you'm hearty welcome!"

In theatrical circles there has been a rumour that the Prince of Wales considers Captain Marshall's brilliant comedy, "A Royal Family," at the Court Theatre, "in bad taste," and would be pleased to hear that the run of the piece was over. As the play is filling the Court every night, Messrs. Chudleigh and Boucicault, the managers, and Captain Marshall, the author, would lose heavily if it were taken off, and are said not to "see it." In view of the Prince's well-known broad-minded "bonhomie," it is extremely improbable that such a rumour has, any real foundation or that H. R. H. would do otherwise than laugh at the spirited and innocent fooling of the piece. The play suggest that Royal families are composed of human beings. The idea is so wittily conveyed that when the curtain falls there is no bad taste in the mouth and if the play has any moral it is that Royalties are the more lovable because they are a good deal like everybody else.

Mdlle. Emma Calve (or should one call her "Madame," since, as all the world knows, she has an English husband?) has just had a droll experience, according to a private letter received from a member of her company in America. The great "cantatrice," it seems, went to a post-office to call for a registered letter. But as she had neglected to provide herself with the two addressed envelopes necessary, over there as in France, to establish proof of identity, the clerk refused to hand over to her the valuable package in question. Calve, as is her wont, was just a little furious. But the clerk stood firm. He had absolutely nothing, he said, to show that she was the great Emma Calve. Wherefore the *prima donna* was constrained to appeal to the post-master himself. This official backed up the prudent decision of his subordinate. He had no proofs, he said politely, that the lady was Mdlle. Calve. "So you don't believe that I am myself," said the great singer. "Very well, listen to this. It is the best proof I can give you." Whereupon, in presence of the scandalised clerks and the astounded members of the public present, she lifted up her glorious voice in the famous aria from *Carmen*. This original, yet after all very natural proof of identity was accepted, and Calve got her registered letter.

Miss Harriet Young, the song-writer, one of the legatees under the late Mrs. Gabrelli's, will occupies a somewhat unique position. If she is an amateur amongst artists she is distinctly an artist amongst amateurs; and is popular with both sets—a difficult distinction to attain. She is very handsome, very kindly, and possesses the art of all arts—tact. She is well known as the composer of several songs that have achieved concert and drawing-room popularity, but still better known as one of the best accompanists of the day. She has great dramatic talent, and the late Mrs. Alfred Wigan once gave it as her opinion that Miss Young was the only amateur she had ever met who could hope to achieve distinction in the profession. More than one of the late Virginia Gabrielli's once popular operettas were made by Miss Harriet Young's gifted rendering of the prima donna's part. Since those days, Miss Young has brought out several operettas of her own composing, but she has only accompanied, and never taken part in them. Miss Jose Sherrington, Miss Bertha Moore and Mr. Hirwin Jones have been some of the many artistes of repute to whom she has successfully entrusted the interpretation of her clever work.

Mr. Frank Mills is one of the most popular American invaders of the London stage, and as he has been playing good parts ever since he came over with "The Hart of Maryland," it is not surprising that he is enchanted with "the old country," and means to stay. He made a hit as a young American soldier in the short-lived but brilliant "Sue" at the Garrick; then he appeared as Athos, in "The Musketeers," at Her Majesty's. Now he is playing the villain in "The Moonlight Blossom," and makes up as a perfect, if somewhat athletic Jap. In private life Mr. Mills is unmistakably American. Tall and handsome, with strong regular features, he has a pleasant manner and the happy knack of always saying the right thing. He has been on the stage for ten years, and has toured the United States from end to end. He will probably be "Japanesing" at the Prince of Wales's Theatre for some time to come. He is the lucky husband of Miss Helen Macbeth, who has just been engaged for a leading part in Broadhurst's new comedy, *The Wrong Mr. Right*, which is to be produced at the Strand.

Miss Leonora Jackson, the young American violinist who has been so wonderfully triumphant in England, France and Germany, is going to pay a visit to her own country, America, about Chinstmastime, where she is engaged for a tour of one hundred concerts, the last taking place next June at San Francisco. Little Miss Jackson is barely twenty and has a demure sweetness of her own, suggestive of descent from the Pilgrim Fathers. The Vanderbilts, Pullmans, and other influential friends subscribed for her education, and are eagerly anticipating the return of their young "protegee." Before Miss Jackson left America, Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes broke up a set of his own works in the library and gave her a copy of "Over the Tea Cups," with an inscription consisting of a verse and the words: "With kind regards and best wishes of her listening and admiring friend, Oliver Wendell Holmes." Miss Jackson is a pupil of Joachim, who conducted for her, and presented her personally to the public when she made her "debut" in Berlin in 1896.

A SINHALESE man burglariously recently entered the Girls' High School Hall, Colombo, and was in the act of removing certain of the school property, when he was laid hold of by the constable on beat and taken to the Police station. He was brought before the Magistrate and was sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

NOTICES.

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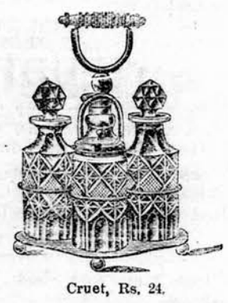
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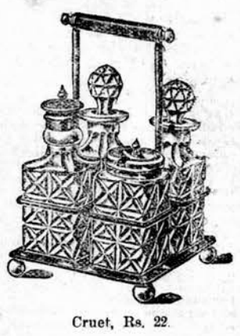
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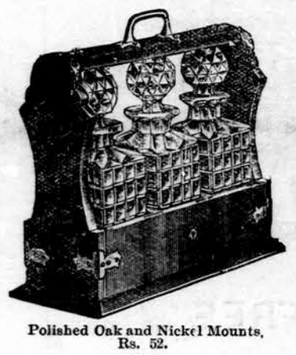
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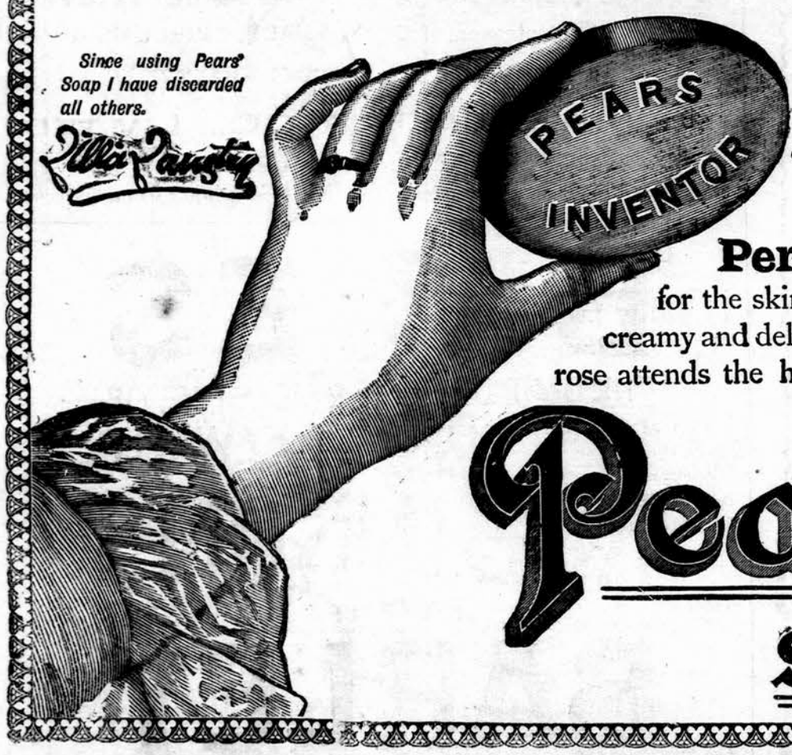

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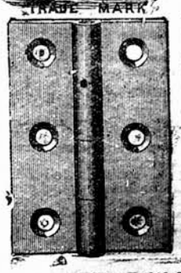

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